

1 - Mr. Durland

Assistant Attorney General  
William F. Tompkins

January 13, 1958

Director, FBI

SECURITY MATTER - C

Reference is made to previous correspondence in this matter.

Enclosed is a copy of a report concerning the captioned subject. Confidential Informant T-1 in the report is identical with T-5 in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated October 21, 1954, T-1 in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated December 7, 1954, T-2 in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated January 31, 1955, T-1 in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated March 30, 1956, and T-1 in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated February 26, 1957. This informant is Armando Penha who served as an informant for this Bureau from May, 1950, until February, 1957. Penha is not currently a member of the Communist Party (CP) but furnishes information on occasion to Agents of this Bureau concerning his knowledge of past CP and related activities. Complete background information regarding Penha has previously been furnished the Department in connection with the cases on Communist Infiltration of the United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers of America, Massachusetts Smith Act Defendants' Committee and Prosecution of Additional Communist Functionaries under the Smith Act - Boston. [redacted] testified as a Government witness before a United States Grand Jury in May, 1956, in connection with the Boston Smith Act case but has not been publicly identified as a former informant of this Bureau. It is noted information was received in December, 1957, that Penha might be called upon to testify before House Committee on Un-American Activities hearings in the Boston area in 1958.

Confidential Informants T-4 and T-9 in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated October 21, 1954, are confidential investigative techniques not available for recontact or to testify.

100-297362

1 - Boston (100-14507)  
2 - Miami (See note page 2)

① - Bufile (100-372696) (Penha)

1 - Bufile  
1 - Bufile

(10)

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b7C  
b7D

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW  
PAGE 3

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL ROOM

PRD:srk

MAILED  
JAN 15 1958  
FBI - BOSTON

ORIGINAL FILE IN 100-297362-31

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Assistant Attorney General William F. Tompkins

Confidential Informant T-3 in the report of Special Agent [ ] dated October 21, 1954, is an individual who operated as an informant for this Bureau from 1941 to 1943. Since that time she has furnished information concerning CP and related activities during the early 1940s when contacted by Agents of this Bureau. When contacted on October 20, 1957, this individual was shown a photograph of subject which she could not identify. She advised that neither the name nor the face of subject means anything to her at this time. However, she advised that it has been approximately fifteen years since she was associated with the CP in New Bedford, Massachusetts, and that because of the passage of time she is unable to specifically recall any of the CP members she knew at that time other than those who were in leadership positions. She advised she is reluctant to be publicly identified through her testimony as a former informant regarding communist activities as this might interfere with her present employment. However, she stated she would be available upon request for contact by representatives of the Department of Justice.

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Confidential Informant T-7 in the report of Special Agent [ ] dated October 21, 1954, is being recontacted for all information in his possession regarding subject. Results of this recontact will be furnished you immediately upon its completion.

Enclosure

ATTENTION: SAC, Miami

Reference is made to Boston letter to the Bureau dated 10-28-57, copies of which were furnished your office. Confidential Informant T-7 in the report of Special Agent [ ] dated 10-21-54 is identical with [ ] Interview this individual immediately for the information requested in referenced Boston letter and submit results to reach the Bureau and Boston no later than fifteen days from the date of this letter.

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b7C  
b7D

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Assistant Attorney General William F. Tompkins

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Subject on Security Index. Department requested information regarding informants listed in reports furnished the Department in connection with the security investigation of subject in view of possible fraud against the Government violation of subject for his denial of CP membership on passport application. Identity and background of Penha furnished Department in previous communications and he is presently carried as a source of information by the Boston Office. Penha was discontinued after he was expelled from the CP, where he came under suspicion of being a "Government agent." Report being furnished Department serial 100-297882-30. Memorandum being classified "~~Confidential~~" inasmuch as enclosed report so classified. Report contains information furnished by source regarding CP activities of subject and disclosure would be detrimental to the internal security.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

F B I

Date: 2/14/58

Transmit the following in PLAIN TEXT  
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-372696) (ATTN: SECURITY INFORMANT SECTION)

FROM: SAC, BOSTON [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: ARMANDO PENHA  
SOI

ARMANDO PENHA, SOI, [REDACTED] was interviewed at New Bedford, Mass., for the third time by GEORGE WILLIAMS, HUAC Investigator, on 2/11/58. WILLIAMS told PENHA to be in Washington, D. C., on 2/21/58 at 10:30 A.M. to be interviewed by a Mr. ARANS (phonetic), Chief Counsel of the HUAC, for briefing purposes.

PENHA was advised that he would be asked to testify at a public hearing before the HUAC at Boston, Mass., on or about 3/18/58; that he would be the first witness called and he would be testifying for about two to three days.

The provisions of SAC letter 57-51, Section I, dated 9/18/57, have been called to PENHA's attention and they will be reiterated prior to his appearance as a witness before the HUAC.

LAUGHLIN

AIR TEL

- 3 - Bureau (100-372696)  
2 - Boston [REDACTED]  
(1 - 100-32353)

JBD:baw  
(5)

REC-76

EX-128

100-372696-290  
FEB 17 1958

INT. SEC.

Approved: [Signature]  
64 FEB 21 1958 Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

b7E



SAC, Boston 

March 10, 1958

REC-48

Director, FBI (100-372696) PERSONAL ATTENTION

EX-135

ARMANDO PENHA  
SOURCE OF INFORMATION

Reurlet 2-25-58 requesting authority to continue payments to Penha on C.O.D. basis up to \$150 per month for a period of four months effective 3-15-58.

It is noted Penha was expelled from the Communist Party (CP) in August, 1956, and that he is not presently furnishing current information regarding security matters. In view of the information presently being furnished by Penha, as summarized in referenced letter, authority to continue payments to him as requested in referenced letter is denied. Authority is granted, however, to continue payments to him on a strict C.O.D. basis up to \$75 per month for information furnished and services rendered for a period of four months effective 3-15-58.

Two weeks prior to the expiration of the above authorized period, you should submit an informative summary of information furnished by Penha together with your recommendation regarding the continuation of payments to him.

If during the next payment period, it is determined that Penha is not in a position to furnish sufficient current information to justify the payment of \$75 per month to him, an appropriate adjustment should be made in the monthly payments made to him by your office.

1 - Mr. Johnson, 331 OPO

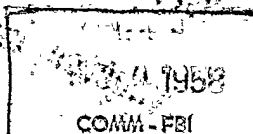
NOTE ON YELLOW:

Penhas utilized as informant May, 1950 to February, 1957, when he was discontinued in as much as he was not developing current information regarding security matters. He was expelled from the CP in August, 1956, testified before the United States Grand Jury May, 1956, in connection with the indictment of New England Smith Act subjects. It is contemplated he will serve as a Government witness in the Communist Infiltration of the United Electrical Workers, Internal Security - C, Internal Security Act of 1950 prosecutions. Until he has testified for the Government in connection with this prosecution and in view of information presently being furnished by him, it is believed that the continuation of payments to him at the reduced rate of \$75 per month is justified.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

BFR:blb  
(5)

MAIL ROOM



64 MAR 12 1958

COMM - FBI

[REDACTED]

Date

Information

11/26/57

PENHA also identified on this date the photographs of the following persons who attended a Communist Party meeting in Boston 9/28/57:

[REDACTED] (BS 100-16160)  
[REDACTED] (BS 100-15635)  
[REDACTED] (BS 100-11772)

11/26/57

PENHA also on this date submitted a written report on the National Group Commissions (Bureau file 100-3-91, BS 100-23166).

12/9/57

PENHA was questioned concerning [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] BS 100-27264.

12/12/57

PENHA was questioned on the CP organization especially with regard to the New Bedford-Fall River area, BS 100-7908.

12/12/57

PENHA submitted a written report in connection with CP youth matters, BS 100-20781.

12/20/57

PENHA was questioned concerning the following security subjects:

[REDACTED] (BS 100-11637)  
[REDACTED] (BS 100-14478)  
[REDACTED] (BS 100-15261)  
[REDACTED] (BS 100-31610)  
CP Strategy in Industry (BS 100-26893)

1/15/58

PENHA was questioned concerning the following Security Matter subjects:

[REDACTED] (BS 100-15801)  
[REDACTED] (BS 100-12615)  
[REDACTED] (BS 100-17516)

[Redacted]

Date

Information

[Redacted] (BS 100-26736)  
[Redacted] (BS 100-20595)  
[Redacted] (BS 100-21114)  
[Redacted] (BS 122-25)

1/24/58

PENHA was contacted in connection with following files:

CP - Fall River-New Bedford District  
(BS 100-31934)  
CP Membership (BS 100-30778)  
House of Un-American Activities Committee  
Hearings (BS 100-32353)

IV. Amount Paid for Services and Expenses  
by Month

<u>Date</u>	<u>Services</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Total</u>
11/15/57- 12/14/57	\$150.		\$150.
12/15/57- 1/14/58	125.		125.
1/15/58- 2/14/58	135.		135.

V. Type and Number of Meetings Attended and  
Other Activities

This SOI has not attended meetings because the CP leaders have been avoiding him for the past several months and it is now known, through another informant, that he was expelled from the Communist Party on August 19, 1956.

VI. Number of Written and Oral Reports Submitted

Written reports - 2  
Oral reports - 18

[REDACTED]

VII. Information Furnished of Unusual Value

This SOI has not furnished any information of unusual value recently. However, this SOI has during the last pay period submitted two written reports of an intelligence nature concerning matters which came to his attention while he was Section Organizer of the CP of New Bedford, Massachusetts, during the past few years. The matters covered in these written reports included CP National Group Commissions and youth matters.

VIII. Approximate Number of Persons on Whom Informant Furnished Coverage and Their Importance

SOI has given information on about ten CP members since October 25, 1957.

IX. Source of Information's Potential

This SOI was considered to have been a key witness in the Boston Compros; however, that case was dismissed in the Federal Court at Boston on November 15, 1957, at the request of [REDACTED] attorney for the Department, and also at the request of ANTHONY JULIAN, United States Attorney at Boston. However, the case against MICHAEL A. RUSSO under the membership clause of the Smith Act is still pending and this Source of Information would be a potential key witness in that case if the RUSSO case goes to trial.

This SOI is also a potential key witness in the matter entitled, "Communist Party Infiltration of United Electrical Workers Union," in the event that case is again heard before the Subversive Activities Control Board.

X. Stability and Reliability

During the entire time PENHA has been an informant [REDACTED] and as a Source of Information from February 4, 1957, he has not shown signs of any personal weaknesses, has had no domestic difficulty and has not shown any indication of unreliability. Nothing has come to the attention of the Boston Office during this period which would indicate that this SOI would become a security problem or a source of embarrassment to the Bureau.

XI. Indoctrination Against Disclosure

Every opportunity has been taken to properly indoctrinate this SOI against making any disclosure of his relationship with the Bureau through any media.

XII. All Necessary Action Taken on Information  
Furnished

Positive action has been taken on all information furnished by this SOI to date.

XIII. Miscellaneous

In view of the fact that this source is a potential witness in the Smith Act case against MICHAEL A. RUSSO as well as a potential witness in the case entitled "Communist Party Infiltration of United Electrical Workers Union," before the Subversive Activities Control Board, and in view of the fact that the SOI was Section Organizer to the CP, New Bedford, for a number of years as well as a member of the District Committee of the CP of New England, it is believed he should be continued as a paid Source of Information.

With Bureau approval PENHA has been interviewed three times at New Bedford since December 1957 by GEORGE WILLIAMS, Investigator of the House Un-American Activities Committee, and he has been advised by WILLIAMS that he will be a witness before the House Un-American Activities Committee when this committee holds a hearing in Boston on or about March 18, 1958.

XIV. Recommendation

I, therefore, recommend that authority be granted to pay this SOI at the rate of \$150 per month on a C.O.D. basis for a period of four months for information furnished and services rendered effective March 15, 1958.

F B I

Date: 2/24/58

Transmit the following in PLAIN TEXT  
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL REGISTERED  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-372696) (ATTN: SECURITY INFORMANT SECTION)

b7E

FROM: SAC, BOSTON  SUBJECT: ARMANDO PENHA  
SOI

PENHA traveled from New Bedford, Mass., to Washington, D.C., 2/20/58 at request of GEORGE WILLIAMS, HUAC Investigator, arriving 5:00 P.M. and conferred for two hours with WILLIAMS. On 2/21/58 PENHA was interviewed from 9:00 A.M. to 12 noon by RICHARD ARENS, Director or Chief Counsel for HUAC and for a short time in the afternoon by WILLIAMS, arriving back in New Bedford that evening.

ARENS told PENHA the HUAC Investigators consider him a good material witness; that he will be the first witness called at the HUAC hearing at Boston, Massachusetts, 3/18/58 and that this would be a public hearing.

ARENS told PENHA he would be testifying for about four hours and the hearing would last for about 4 days. PENHA was instructed to be in Boston the day before he was to testify; that the HUAC would make a hotel reservation for him and he should plan to remain in Boston for the week in the event they wished to call him back to the witness stand after the first day.

ARENS and WILLIAMS told PENHA that he could be expected to be asked on the witness stand about his background; how he joined the CP; positions he held in the CP; CP leadership in New England; CP finances; trips he made to NYC for the CP; a trip he made to the south as member of the National Textile Commission of the CP; Communist infiltration; and United Electrical Members Union colonization and infiltration of industry.

LAUGHLIN REC-18

3 - Bureau (100-372696)  
2 - Boston    
(1 - 100-32353 - HUAC)

AIR TEL

6 FEB 26 1958

JBD:baw  
(5)

EX - 136

68 MAR 4 1958

INT. SEC.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

F B I

Date: 3/5/58




Transmit the following in PLAIN  
(Type in plain text or code)  
Via Airtel REGISTERED MAIL  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (61-7582)  
FROM : SAC, BOSTON (100-32353)  
SUBJECT: HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN  
ACTIVITIES, NEW ENGLAND AREA  
IS - C

ReBoslet 3/4/58.

GEORGE WILLIAMS, HCUA Investigator, on 3/5/58 advised Boston Office that he contemplates having U. S. Marshal, Boston, serve following individuals for appearance at Courtroom #3, U. S. District Court, Boston, on March 18, 1958.

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<u>Name</u>	<u>Bufile</u>	<u>Bosfile</u>
	100-237969	100-12770
	100-347391	100-17785
	100-297558	100-14506
	100-211914	100-11637
	100-330232	100-15407
	100-297262	100-14206
	100-299148	100-14461
	✓ 100-372696	
	100-366920	100-24298
	100-340106	100-15635
	100-346590	100-17614
	100-375790	100-23781
	100-34	100-547

END OF PAGE ONE

19 - Bureau (61-7582) (REGISTERED MAIL)  
(17 - Bufiles listed herein)

20 - Boston (100-32353)  
(17 - Bosfiles listed herein)

FMC:cm  
(39)

52 MAR 12 1958 *(207)*

✓ 100-372696  
NOT RECORDED  
170 MAR 10 1958  
INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 100-372696-3713

PAGE TWO      BS 100-32353

In addition to foregoing, WILLIAMS advised that on return to Washington, D.C., he intends to mail U. S. Marshal, Providence, Rhode Island, subpoenas for following:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Bufile</u>	<u>Bosfile</u>
<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 275px; height: 65px;"></div>	100-415650	100-29992
	100-333661	100-27813
	100-77967	100-18576
	100-183717	100-17635

Boston is reviewing files of the above listed to insure Bureau is in possession of complete information relating to these persons.

Bureau will be kept advised of all pertinent details regarding this matter.

LAUGHLIN



SAC, Boston 

March 12, 1958

Director, FBI (100-372696) - *93*

REC-5

ARMANDO PENHA  
SOURCE OF INFORMATION

Reurlet 3-5-58 advising Penha is due to testify for the House Committee on Un-American Activities (HCUA) on 3-18-58.

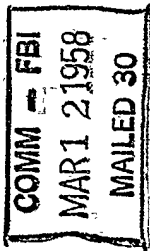
Immediately contact Penha to insure that he has furnished all information in his possession regarding security matters, that he has not retained notes or investigative reports of any kind, that he is not in a position to jeopardize current Bureau informants or investigative techniques and to remind him that if he testifies before the HCUA, he must be accurate and truthful.

You should further advise Penha that his decision to appear before the HCUA is a matter that must be resolved solely by him. The results of your contact with Penha should be immediately made known to the Bureau.

## NOTE:

Penha utilized as a paid security informant from 1950 to 1955 when he was expelled from the CP and was no longer in a position to develop current information regarding security matters. He is presently utilized as a source of information and authority is outstanding to pay him on a c.o.d. basis up to \$75 per month. A disclosure has been made of his former informant status to the Department and he has testified before the Federal Grand Jury in Boston.

To minimize the possibility of embarrassment to the Bureau in connection with Penha's testimony before the HCUA, the above instructions are being transmitted to the Boston Office.



Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Clayton \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

BFR:bam

431 (4)

431-202-22  
HCUA

66 MAR 18 1958

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-372696)

DATE: 3/5/58

b6  
b7C  
b7EFROM : SAC, BOSTON SUBJECT: ARMANDO PENHA, wa.  
SOURCE OF INFORMATION

PENHA advised on 2/26/58, that he was notified on 2/25/58, that he was laid off indefinitely from his job at the Acushnet Process Co., New Bedford, Massachusetts, due to lack of business. He had been employed there for the past seventeen months.

1-D  
PENHA was advised by SA  on 2/26/58, that he could not apply for unemployment compensation from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and at the same time receive payments from the Bureau. PENHA said that where he still owes the Commonwealth approximately \$920 for unemployment benefits received by him in the past, that he would not even apply for benefits now even though he is unemployed as the Massachusetts authorities would simply apply the current benefits to the amount he owes to the State of Massachusetts and he would not receive anything.

PENHA is due to testify for the HUAC at Boston on 3/18/58.

JBD:gi  
(3)

REC-5

EX-110

100-372696-23

13 MAR 1958

INT. SEC.

Let. to Penha  
3/12/58 8:17 PM/lan

COPIES  
32

F B I

Date: March 12, 1958

Transmit the following in PLAIN TEXT  
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

b7E

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-372696)

FROM: SAC, BOSTON SUBJECT: ARMANDO PENHA  
SOURCE OF INFORMATION

PENHA received subpoena to testify before HUAC at U.S. District Court, Boston, 3/18/58 at 10:00 a.m. He has been instructed by GEORGE WILLIAMS, HUAC Investigator, to be in Boston on 3/17/58 and will be the first witness to testify in this hearing. WILLIAMS has arranged for PENHA to stay at the Hotel Bellevue, Beacon St., Boston, Mass. all of next week in the event the Committee wishes to call him back to the witness stand. It is expected he will furnish his testimony on 3/18/58.

LAUGHLIN

3 - Bureau (100-372696) (RM)

2 - Boston (1-100-32353 HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES  
BOSTON AREA)JBD/bat/bmh  
(5)

REC-56

100-372696-94

18 MAR 14 1958

AID TFI

EX-126

INT. SEC.

Approved: 136  
MAR 13 1958  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

MR. L. V. BOARDMAN

March 12, 1958

MR. A. H. BELMONT

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES  
New England Area  
IS-C

In connection with hearings scheduled by the House Committee on Un-American Activities (HCUA) in Boston, two former Bureau informants, Armando Penha and Mrs. Carol Harris Foster, will testify. The hearings will open in Boston on or about March 15, 1958, and the Boston Office has advised that when the former informants testify, inquiries will be received from the local press representatives. In anticipation of these inquiries Boston requested the Bureau to grant authority to make the following releases only after the local press has made inquiry:

ARMANDO PENHA

Armando Penha was never a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He voluntarily furnished information of a security nature which came to his attention concerning subversive activities to this Bureau from 1950 until 1958.

CAROL HARRIS FOSTER

Carol Harris Foster was never a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. She voluntarily furnished information of a security nature which came to her attention concerning subversive activities to this Bureau from 1946 until 1956.

OBSERVATIONS:

Penha was born 6-5-20 in New Bedford, Massachusetts, joined the Communist Party in 1950 to furnish information to the

Enclosure

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

61-7582  
JDD: jas(9)  
1 - Mr. Nease  
1 - Mr. Boardman  
1 - Mr. Belmont  
1 - Mr. Bland  
1 - Mr. Pettit  
1 - Mr. Donohue  
1 - Mr. Penha  
1 - Bufile \_\_\_\_\_

61-7582-372696 (Armando Penha)

100-372696-  
NOT RECORDED  
156 MAR 14 1958

Memorandum for Mr. Boardman

RE: HCUA

New England Area

IS-C

61-7582

Bureau. He was expelled from the Party in 1955 when they became suspicious of him and from then until the present time he has functioned as a source of information. Authority is presently outstanding to pay him up to \$75 per month on a c.o.d. basis. Penha testified before the Federal Grand Jury in Boston as a prospective witness in the Boston Smith Act case. This case will not be tried, however, as the indictment has been dismissed. HCUA has advised Penha will be the first witness and will testify for about four hours regarding his activity in the Communist Party, positions he held such as member of the National Textile Commission and section organizer. We have instructed Boston to remind Penha to be accurate and truthful if he testifies.

Mrs. Foster was born 12-7-13 at Boscawen, New Hampshire, and resides in Nashua, New Hampshire. In 1946 she volunteered to furnish information on communist activities in New Hampshire and joined the Communist Party in order to obtain such information. She also became active in the Progressive Party and was paid for her services. She came under suspicion by the Communist Party in 1954 and was discontinued as an informant in 1956 due to unproductivity. She has not been paid for her services since that time and in view of her imminent testimony, Boston has been instructed to tell her she must be truthful and accurate if she testifies.

ACTION:

For approval, there is attached an airtel to Boston authorizing issuance of releases as requested by Boston on Penha and Foster after they testify for the HCUA and only after the local press has made inquiry concerning their status with the FBI.

Orig. & 3 - Boston  
1 - Nease  
1 - Boardman  
1 - Belmont  
1 - Bland  
3-12-58 1 - Pettit  
1 - Donohue

**AIRTEL**

b6  
b7C  
b7D  
b7E

To: SAC, Boston (100-32353)

From: Director, FBI (61-7562)

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES  
NEW ENGLAND AREA  
IC-3

Reurlet March 5, 1958. Authority granted answer  
press inquiries after Penha and Foster testify for HCUA as  
suggested in urlet. Keep Bureau fully advised of this  
situation.

- 1 - Boston [redacted] (Armando Penha)
- 1 - Boston [redacted]
- ① - Bufile (100-372696) (Armando Penha)
- 1 - Bufile [redacted]

See memo Belmont to Boardman, same caption, same date, JDD:jas.

JDD:jas  
(13)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

NOT RECORDED

36 MAR 14 1958

MAIL ROOM ☐

ORIGINAL FILED IN 61-7562-18

F B I

Date: 3/17/58

b6  
b7C  
b7D  
b7ETransmit the following message via AIRTELPLAIN TEXT

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-372696)

FROM: SAC, BOSTON [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: ARMANDO PENHA  
SOI**AIR TEL**

Rebuletts 3/12/58 and 1/3/58.

Pursuant to instructions contained in rebulet, PENHA was contacted on 3/14/58. PENHA advised SA [REDACTED] that he has furnished all information in his possession regarding security matters, that he has not retained notes or investigative reports of any kind. He was instructed to be accurate and truthful if he testifies. He was advised that his decision to appear before the HCUA is a matter to be resolved solely by him.

Rebulet 1/3/58 stated the Bureau was taking action to advise the Chief Counsel of the HCUA that the testimony of PENHA should be limited to his knowledge of the activities of the former Boston Smith Act defendants in order to avoid naming [REDACTED]

PENHA has no knowledge of any investigative techniques.

PENHA furnished to SA [REDACTED] a library of about 150 books which JOSEPH FIGUEIREDO, former Section Organizer of Communist Party, New Bedford, Massachusetts gave to PENHA when FIGUEIREDO went underground in 1951. This library consisting of Communist Party literature was to be returned to FIGUEIREDO by PENHA if FIGUEIREDO returned to New Bedford, Massachusetts. PENHA maintained this library only for security reasons in the event FIGUEIREDO returned to New Bedford, Massachusetts.

Bureau will be kept advised of pertinent developments.

LAUGHLIN

76 MAR 25 1958

EX - 134

MAR 19 1958

RHB:smg

3 - Bureau (100-372696)

2 - Boston [REDACTED] 1 - (100-32353) (HCUA)

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

cc Boardman  
Belmont  
Baumgardner  
Dise

March 21, 1958

PLAIN TEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

b6  
b7c

TO: SAC, BOSTON

FROM: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-3-74)

CFUSA, IS DASH C, SMITH ACT FORTY. DEPARTMENT ATTORNEY ☐  
ARRIVING BS EARLY AFTERNOON MARCH TWENTYFOUR FIFTYEIGHT FOR  
PURPOSE OF INTERVIEWING ARMANDO PENHA AS POTENTIAL SMITH ACT  
WITNESS IN PENDING MEMBERSHIP CASES. BS INSTRUCTED TO CONTACT  
PENHA TO ADVISE HIM OF ☐ PLANS AND TO REQUEST THAT HE  
BE AVAILABLE IN BS FOR INTERVIEW ON MONDAY. IF PENHA NOT  
AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEW IN BS ON MONDAY, ARRANGE ALTERNATE  
DATE AND ADVISE ☐ ON HIS ARRIVAL. WRITTEN REPORTS OF  
PENHA MAY BE MADE AVAILABLE TO ☐ FOR REVIEW IF HE SO  
REQUESTS.

FWD:pat  
(7)

cc 100-372696 (Penha)

NOTE ON YELLOW:

See Belmont memo to Boardman 3-21-58 re same caption

FWD:pat

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

DUPLICATE YELLOW OF  
MAR 21 1958 TRANSMITTED

Teletype Unit

TELETYPE

100-372696-  
NOT RECORDED  
46 MAR 26 1958

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 100-3-74-100



Mr. L. V. Boardman

March 21, 1958

Mr. A. H. Belmont

COMMUNIST PARTY, USA  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C  
SMITH ACT OF 1940

Department Attorney [ ] telephonically contacted Supervisor P. W. Dise on March 21, 1958, to advise that he is proceeding to Boston, Massachusetts, where he expects to arrive on Monday, March 24, 1958, for the purpose of interviewing Armando Penha. Penha is a former Boston confidential informant who was released for testimony in the Boston Smith Act conspiracy trial and who has recently testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities (HCUA) in Boston. [ ] desires to interview Penha as a potential Government witness in pending Smith Act membership cases. Department attorneys interviewed Penha prior to the dismissal of the indictment in Boston and his reports were made available for their review when they were preparing for the Boston trial.

[ ] is aware of the fact that Penha resides at New Bedford, Massachusetts, but advised he would like to interview him in Boston and requested that Penha be alerted to [ ] plans by our Boston Office. [ ] stated he would confirm the above request by memorandum.

ACTION:

Attached for approval is a teletype to Boston advising of [ ] request and containing instructions for Boston to alert Penha to [ ] desire to interview Penha in Boston on Monday, March 24, 1958. [ ]  
*Washington enroute to Boston via New Haven.*

Enclosure

100-3-74

① 100-372696 (Penha)

1 - Boardman

1 - Belmont

1 - Baumgardner

1 - Dise

PWD:pat

(6)

100-372696-  
NOT RECORDED  
46 MAR 25 1958

INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 100-3-74-5

3/18/58

PLAIN TEXT

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (61-7582)

FROM: SAC, BOSTON (100-32353)

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UNAMERICAN ACTIVITIES  
NEW ENGLAND AREA  
IS - C

Attached hereto for the Bureau are two copies of an article which sets forth the testimony of ARMANDO PENHA, former [redacted] who testified as a witness before the HCUA at Boston, Mass., on 3/18/58. The article appeared in the "BOSTON EVENING GLOBE" for 3/18/58, on Pages 1 and 13. Background data and photo of PENHA is also set forth in this article.

Bureau will be kept advised of pertinent data.

LAUGHLIN

3 - Bureau (Encls. 2) (61-7582) (RM)  
2 - Boston (100-32353)  
[redacted] - ARMANDO PENHA

RHB:ds  
(5)

ENCLOSURE

100-372676-1  
NOT RECORDED  
APR 26 1958

INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

60 APR 1 1958

ORIGINAL FILED IN 61-7582-37

# FBI Spy Says U.S.

## Reds Strong

### Weeding-Out Aids Party,

### Congressmen Told Here

### Counterspy Begins Testimony Exposing "Big Shots" in the New Bedford Region

The Communist Party in the United States is stronger than ever before, a congressional committee was told in Boston today.

Boston Traveler  
Boston Herald  
Boston Globe (Evening)  
Boston American  
Boston Record  
Christian Science Monitor

Date: 3/18/58  
Edition: Evening  
Author or  
Editor:  
Title: HC 4 A  
New England Area  
15-2

Class. or  
Character:  
Pages 1 - 13

100 - 372696 - ✓

ENCLOSURE

Armand Penha of 22 Dover st., Fairhaven, testified that he had held high positions in the party since 1950, when he became a Communist at the request of the FBI. He said his leadership continued until a few days ago, when he was asked for advice by some fellow members who had been subpoenaed to appear at these hearings.

Although the number of Communists in the United States has been shrinking, "the party actually strengthens itself every time it weeds out the weaklings," Penha told members of the House subcommittee on Un-American Activities.

Penha was the first witness called in the hearings, which will continue through Friday at the Federal Building. In all there will be about 40 witnesses, including such old-line Communists as Otis Archer Hood, Daniel Boone Schirmer and Ann Burlak Timpson.

Asked to name some of the Communists he associated with in his eight years in the party, Penha said he would start with the "big shots of the party in New Bedford."

These, he testified, were himself, Mrs. Mary Figuerido, Nat Sheldman, Nat's wife, Annie Sheldman, and Dan Amato.

Mrs. Figuerido was in charge of press relations and dues in the New Bedford area, Penha said. She "serviced" Communist Party sympathizers in their homes and was available as a courier. Sheldman alleg-

edly was a "colonizer," who was instructed by the party to infiltrate labor unions.

Amato worked in a rubber plant and his job was to influence fellow workers.

Also, testified Penha, there was an Olga Sarczynski, a "union organizer who put the Communist Party first."

This morning's star witness, Penha, stated that he was em-

ployed as an inspector for the Acushnet Process Co. Early in 1950, he said, he got in touch with an FBI agent and offered his services as a spy within the Communist Party.

He did this because he felt that, as an average citizen, he should do something to help maintain American freedom, he said.

RED PROBE  
Page Thirteen

## Skipped Church 8 Years

# Denial of Religion

## Worst Ordeal—Penha



Armand Penha, the Fairhaven man who is the latest undercover agent for the FBI to be brought forward to expose the continuing conspiracy, told of his trials and tribulations today.

He told congressional probers in Boston of the years of intrigue and emphasized:

"Once I was in the party, I realized that the very thing I needed to have close to me I could not have—my religion."

Penha told of his cloak-and-dagger experience at the invitation of committee counsel Arens, who asked that the witness describe his life in the ranks of "this godless conspiracy."

The anti-Communist agent said he was born in New Bedford in 1920 and in 1932 was taken to Portugal with his parents. There he remained until 1940 when he returned and was subsequently employed by the United States Government Office of Censorship in New York City.

REDS GET STRONGER when they weed out the weaklings, counterspy, Armand Penha, told Congressional committee here.

COUNTERSPY  
Page Thirteen

# U. S. Red Conspiracy Stronger Than Ever, Says Counterspy Here

## Probers Told Party Gains By Weeding Out Weaklings

### RED PROBE

Continued from the First Page

Subcommittee counsel Richard Arens asked what titles Penha had held in the Communist Party.

His first titled office was as section organizer for the New Bedford area, Penha declared. This made him "head Communist for that area."

Subsequently, he became chairman for the Bristol County Area, taking in New Bedford, Taunton and Fall River. He was also "regional sectional organizer and a delegate to the party's national textile commission in New York City."

"What was your last service to the party and when did you perform it?" Arens inquired.

"Just this past week," responded Penha. "As head of the party in the New Bedford area, I was approached by a couple of party members as to how they should conduct themselves before this committee."

"I supplied them with copies of previous committee hearings throughout the country, showing the procedure and the lines of questioning."

### Men Advised to Testify

Cong. Bernard W. Kearney, New York Republican, asked Penha if the men he advised were under subpoena to testify here. He said they were.

Arens then asked whether Penha

considered the Communist Party a serious threat in this area now.

"I'd prefer to tell you how serious it is throughout the country," said Penha. "I feel, and I'm sure I'm correct, that the Communist conspiracy today is much stronger than ever before. It isn't the total number of members that's the issue. The party plays up loss of members as propaganda, but actually strengthens itself every time it weeds out the weaklings."

Arens asked Penha, if he considered the Communist Party a political party. "Not in the sense we understand political parties," the witness answered.

"It's a conspiracy to defeat the political parties that exist."

"How does the party get its strength?" Answer: "By infiltration and mass agitation. The party places trusted members in industry and in labor to serve the party's interest. They work for positions of influence, and they foment dissatisfaction."

### Hard-Core Majority

Between 40 and 60 percent of Communist Party members in a community are "hard-core, secret members," Penha estimated. He said these men have infiltrated industry, fraternal organizations and such. For every one of them, there are 10 party sympathizers spreading their influence, he said.

Penha stated that he had met from 285 to 315 Communists in New England. In the New Bedford area there are section committees, with each committeeman representing 10 Communists, he testified.

The party instructs members to attempt to influence any public official, state, Federal or local. A Communist is taught to lead the masses. He does not dare voice any criticism of Russia.

However, Penha did not believe the Communist Party "ever would be able to convert America."

"The only way is to use the tools Lenin handed down," he said. "That is by force and violence, backed eventually by the force of the Red Army to take over this country."



(Globe Staff Photo by Louis Russo)

AMONG WITNESSES called by Congressional committee was Otis Archer Hood, shown with his wife at courthouse.

## COUNTERSPY

*Continued from the First Page*

He entered the service in 1942 and was later called into military intelligence where he served for 32 months prior to his discharge. He obtained a position with John Hancock Insurance Co., the job he held when he joined the party in 1950.

Penha testified that party leaders told him that if he wanted to progress in their ranks he would have to quit the insurance business and get into the "industrial field." He followed their instructions, even though it meant a personal loss of between \$45 and \$50 a week when he went to work for Acushnet Process Co., in Fairhaven.

He called his educational background as that of the "average American" with high school, business school and a Bachelor of Laws degree.

He decided to join the party after contacting the FBI, and reported the fact to his wife. He paid his wife high praise:

"I felt she would have to share in the outcome whatever it may be. Were it not for my wife, I would never have succeeded. She has gone through many straining situations — entertaining many Communist Party members at our home and constantly watching the children to see that they would not say anything which might give me away."

Penha, who said he was a Catholic, digressed at length on religion.

The Communist Party prevented him from observing and practicing his religion, he said, adding that in eight years he has been in church "no more than 12 times."

He philosophized:

"Any person, be he Jew, Protestant or Catholic, doesn't realize the great privilege he enjoys to be able to go to his church at any time. I never realized this until I got into the party."

"Once I was in the party I realized that the very thing I needed to have close to me I could not have—my religion."

Penha singled out Rt. Rev. Msgr. Walter J. Furlong of Newton as the greatest inspiration and guidance he has had during the eight years.

"Without him I could not have succeeded," said Penha.

He was asked by Congressman Clyde Doyle, a California Democrat:

"Did the party control your church? What did they have to do with preventing you from going to church?"

Said Penha:

"Sir, they control every moment of your life and they are atheists to begin with. The hard-core members do not believe in it (religion) and I can assure you if I had gone to church I wouldn't be here today."

MR. L. V. BOARDMAN

March 19, 1958

MR. A. H. BELMONT

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES  
NEW ENGLAND AREA  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

ARMANDO PENHA  
SOURCE OF INFORMATION

Reference is made to newspaper clipping from the "New York Herald Tribune" dated March 19, 1958, concerning the appearance before the House Committee on Un-American Activities (HCUA) of Penha who stated he joined the Communist Party in 1950 for the FBI and named members of the District Committee in the Boston area. The Director noted "What are facts re Penha? H."

Penha was born June 5, 1920, in New Bedford, Massachusetts, and initially contacted our Boston Office on 2-28-50. He had no previous Communist Party affiliation and in behalf of the Bureau joined the Communist Party in the spring of 1950. He gradually rose in Party affairs and was Section Organizer in New Bedford, Massachusetts, for a number of years and also became a member of the District Committee of the Communist Party in New England. He also served on the Executive Board and on behalf of the Party in 1955 made a trip throughout the South as a member of the National Textile Commission. As a result of his activities he developed a wide acquaintanceship among communists in New England. The Party became suspicious of him, however, and he was expelled on August 19, 1956. Since that time he has functioned as a source of information for the Boston Office based upon his previous activity. Authority is presently outstanding to pay him up to \$75 per month on a co.d. basis. [redacted] testified before the Federal Grand Jury, Boston, as a prospective witness in the Boston

61-7582

JDD:jas(6)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

1 - Mr. Nease  
1 - Mr. Boardman  
1 - Mr. Belmont  
1 - Mr. Donohue  
① - Bufile 100-372696 (Armando Penha)

76 APR 2 1958

MAIL ROOM ☐

NOT RECORDED

46 MAR 31 1958

ORIGINAL - COPY FILED IN b3

Memorandum for Mr. Boardman  
RE: HCUA - NEW ENGLAND AREA  
IS - C;  
ARMANDO PENHA  
SOURCE OF INFORMATION  
61-7582

Smith Act case. This case will not be tried, however, as the indictment has been dismissed.

We were previously advised by the HCUA that Penha would be the first witness in the current hearings in Boston and would testify about four hours regarding his activity in the Communist Party. Boston Office has instructed Penha to be accurate and truthful in his testimony and Penha has advised that he has furnished to us all information in his possession on security matters and has not retained any notes or informant reports. Boston has been authorized to answer any press inquiries on Penha as follows:

"Armando Penha was never a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He voluntarily furnished information of a security nature which came to his attention concerning subversive activities to this Bureau from 1950 to 1958."

ACTION:

None, this is for information.



MR. L. V. BOARDMAN

March 21, 1958

MR. A. H. BELMONT

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES  
NEW ENGLAND AREA  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

ARMANDO PENHA  
SOURCE OF INFORMATION

Reference is made to memorandum dated March 19, 1958, setting forth background information on Penha who has been authorized for payments up to \$75 per month on a c.o.d. basis. The Director noted, "What is this for now since he is openly exposed? H."

Penha originally contacted the Boston Office on February 28, 1950, and stated that he had considered for a long time entering the Communist Party in New Bedford, Massachusetts, so he could in turn furnish information to the FBI as had been done by Herbert Philbrick and other individuals. Payments to him for his services began in May, 1950, up to a maximum of \$35 per month and in view of his value they were gradually increased to where he was receiving up to a maximum of \$300 per month in 1955. As with all informants, his productivity and general over-all value were periodically reviewed and evaluated to make certain that the Bureau was receiving the maximum benefit from the expenditure of any funds.

When the New England Smith Act subjects were arrested in May, 1956, Penha was one of several members of the Party who came under suspicion and he was expelled on August 19, 1956. This action was taken without any fanfare and no publicity was given to it outside the Party. Payments were continued to him due to the fact that even though he was expelled from the Party he still maintained contact with individuals active in the communist movement. He was a valuable source of information on communist activity in the period when he was an active member of the organization. He was also considered to be a key witness in the Boston Smith Act trial and in connection therewith appeared before the Federal Grand Jury in 1956 which returned indictments against the Boston subjects. In addition, he was being considered at

Enclosure

61-7582

JDD:jas (6)

- 1 - Mr. Nease
- 1 - Mr. Boardman
- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Donohue

Bufile 100-372696 (Armando Penha)

100-372696 ✓  
NOT RECORDED

46 MAR 31 1958

76 APR 2 1958

Memorandum for Mr. Boardman  
Re: HCUA, NEW ENGLAND AREA, IS-C;  
ARMANDO PENHA, SOURCE OF INFORMATION  
61-7582

that time as a witness in the case before the Subversive Activities Control Board (SACB) of the United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers of America. His compensation was gradually reduced to the point where Boston was authorized on March 10, 1958, to continue payments on a strict c.o.d. basis up to \$75 per month for a period of four months effective 3-15-58. This means that he can only be paid on the basis of what he produces and the assistance which he renders. The maximum amount which he can receive in a month cannot exceed \$75. As justification for these payments Boston on 2-25-58 submitted a summary of Penha's value which reflected that he had furnished two written reports and 18 oral reports and furnished information on about ten Communist Party members during the previous three-month period. Even though the Boston Smith Act case has been dismissed, Penha is still a potential key witness in the event the United Electrical Workers case is again heard by the SACB. (The SACB after taking testimony last May in the United Electrical case recessed hearings for consideration of motions which had been presented before the Board and has indicated it will not resume these hearings until it has disposed of the case against the Communist Party.) As an indication that Penha has been able to maintain contact with his communist acquaintances, on 3/16/58, two days before he testified before the HCUA he was contacted by two Security Index subjects relative to action to be taken as they had received subpoenas. Penha did not give these individuals any instructions and advised the Boston Office that one of them had been unable to obtain counsel and that they would probably take the Fifth Amendment.

ACTION:

In view of the past services rendered by Penha and the fact that he has continued to be of assistance to the Boston Office due to his past CP activity in which he became engaged strictly for the FBI, it is recommended that the present authorization to pay him strictly on the basis of what he produces and the assistance he renders up to a maximum of \$75 per month be continued for the present payment period which expires 7-15-58. Now that Penha has been publicly revealed for the first time and will therefore not be able to produce information as in the past, Boston is being instructed in the attached letter to make certain that the assistance he renders is carefully evaluated and any payments made to him fully justified. At the end of the present payment period additional payments will not be authorized unless the Boston Office can justify such payments on the basis of Penha's current value and information which he may be able to furnish.

MR. L. V. BOARDMAN

March 24, 1958

MR. A. H. BELMONT

- 1 - Mr. Nease
- 1 - Mr. Boardman
- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Donohue

SECURITY INFORMANTS  
AND SOURCES

Reference is made to my memorandum dated March 21, 1958, entitled "House Committee on Un-American Activities, New England Area, Internal Security - C; Armando Penha, Source of Information." Penha is a former informant who is being paid up to a maximum of \$75 per month strictly on the basis of what he produces and the assistance he renders. He testified publicly before the House Committee on Un-American Activities (HCUA) on 3-18-58. The Director noted, "Are we paying any other informants whose usefulness have been impaired? H. Yes, we are paying three former informants, [redacted] and [redacted], on the same basis."

[redacted] was formerly one of Washington Field Office's most valuable security informants. She was a member of the Communist Party from 1943 to 1949 on behalf of the Bureau and discontinued activity due to ill health. In 1943 payments to her were authorized up to a maximum of \$10 per week and due to her value compensation to her was increased to the point where she was receiving a maximum of \$100 per week in 1945. When she left the Party she [redacted] the Washington, D. C., group and since then she has testified on numerous occasions for the Government relating to communist activities. Authority is outstanding to pay her on a c.o.d. basis in varying amounts not to exceed \$20 per month effective 1-15-58 for a period of four months. As justification for this authorization LEO pointed out on 12-12-57 that during the previous three months [redacted] had been contacted concerning approximately 80 cases. Due to her knowledge of communist activity she is still contacted by LEO at least once a week in matters pertaining to security cases, SCL cases, applicant cases. Although extensive interviews have been conducted with [redacted] for the purpose of obtaining all information in her possession, occasionally she will remember items of interest which she had not previously furnished to the Bureau simply because the items were not recalled by her during these interviews. As an indication that [redacted] is only paid on the occasion warrants, the last two payments to her were \$30 on June 19, 1957, and \$20 on January 24, 1958.

66-2542-3

JDD:jag (10)

- 1 - Bufile 61-7532 (NSOA)
- ① - Bufile 100-372696 (Armando Penha)
- 1 - Bufile 100-373225 [redacted]
- 1 - Bufile 105-2439 [redacted]
- 1 - Bufile 100-208657 [redacted]

100-372696-✓  
NOT RECORDED  
46 MAR 31 1958

6 APR 2 1958

Memorandum for Mr. Boardman  
RE: SECURITY INFORMANTS  
AND SOURCES  
65-2542-3

b6  
b7C  
b7D

former [redacted], former [redacted] and [redacted]  
former [redacted] reside in [redacted]  
[redacted] was developed as an informant by TT-1 4-13-43 and [redacted] on 7-1-44.  
They were both taken over for direct handling by the Buffalo Division  
from TT-1 on 2-13-45 and were discontinued as a result of their public  
exposure through testimony of [redacted] in the [redacted] Smith Act  
case April 6, 1956. In view of their past extensive Communist Party  
activity on behalf of the Bureau they have continued to furnish assistance  
in security matters. As in the case of [redacted] although [redacted]  
and [redacted] have been contacted on numerous occasions to obtain all in-  
formation in their possession occasionally they will remember items of  
interest which they had not previously furnished to the Bureau simply  
because the items were not recalled by them during the previous interviews.  
Authority is presently outstanding to compensate each of them on a c.o.d.  
basis up to \$50 per month effective February 1, 1958, for a period of  
four months. As justification for the continuance of these payments,  
Buffalo pointed out in its latest justification letters dated 1-18-58 that  
[redacted] during the previous three months had been contacted on 13 occasions  
averaging one and a half hours per contact for which he was compensated  
a total over the three months of \$75. Buffalo advised that [redacted] in a  
similar manner over the three months' period received a total of \$75.  
It is noted that the latest justification letters from Buffalo reflect  
that they were only paid half of the authorized maximum amount of \$50  
each per month. Both of them are under consideration as possible witnesses  
in the [redacted] SM-C, Fraud Against the Government case.

Our over-all policy with respect to payments to all our  
security informants is based solely on their ability to produce and furnish  
current information of value. An informant occasionally due to personal  
factors such as the informant's health or sickness of members of his  
family may have to curtail his activities and as a result his production  
as an informant may decrease. There are other situations where informants  
come under suspicion of the Communist Party and are suspended or expelled  
from Party activity which limits their value. On other occasions indi-  
vidual Party members will become suspicious of an informant and the  
informant's sources of information in the Party will thereby decrease.  
These situations are usually temporary in nature and when payments are  
authorized to informants, the field is under instructions that these  
payments are made for value received and not as a salary. In other words,

Memorandum for Mr. Boardman  
RE: SECURITY INFORMANTS  
AND SOURCES  
65-2542-3

all payments to informants are based on what the informant produces and his general over-all value to the Bureau. The authorization which is made by the Bureau is on a c.o.d. basis with a maximum limit. Payments will, therefore, vary dependent upon the production of the informant and if his usefulness is impaired at any time, adjustments are made in his compensation.

ACTION:

The above is for information. All payments to informants will continue to be carefully evaluated and justified on the basis of the current productivity and over-all value to the Bureau of each individual involved. Justification letters submitted by the field on a periodic basis will be carefully scrutinized and before any authorization is given to continue payments, a thorough analysis and review will be made to make certain that the Bureau receives the maximum benefit from any payments which may be made.

Mr. L. V. Boardman

March 26, 1958

Mr. A. H. Belmont

1 - Mr. Boardman  
1 - Mr. Nease  
1 - Mr. Belmont  
1 - Mr. Rose

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES  
NEW ENGLAND AREA  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

b6  
b7c

ARMANDO PENHA  
SOURCE OF INFORMATION

Departmental memorandum 3-21-58 captioned "United States vs. Russo" requested that arrangements be made for [redacted] of the Department to review reports of and to interview Armando Penha regarding article appearing in "New York Times" on 3-21-58. Article states Penha on 3-20-58 testified before House Committee on Un-American Activities (HCUA), that he was shown plans of a plot to plant a bomb near the platform of a school auditorium where Louis Budenz was to speak and that Penha talked them out of it.

Bufiles reflect that Penha advised Boston Office on 12-8-54 that on 12-4-54 that he had determined that Edmund Fontaine and Roland Botelho, Communist Party (CP) members, had considered making a bomb to throw at Louis Budenz during his appearance at the New Bedford, Massachusetts, high school on 11-28-54, but that Botelho refused to have anything to do with the idea unless the matter was discussed with Penha. Above facts set forth in Boston report dated 1-4-55 re 'Edmund Alphonse Fontaine, SM-C, Fraud Against the Government. Bulet 1-20-55 instructed Boston to reinterview Penha and develop all available information concerning this matter, to instruct Penha to promptly report any developments of this type in order that appropriate action could be taken and the Bureau expeditiously advised. Boston let 2-4-55 advised that Penha upon being recontacted in this matter advised that Fontaine had been out of work for the past two and a half years, that he was extremely moody, was bitter towards everyone and was using intoxicants to excess. Penha described Botelho as being mentally deranged and that neither Fontaine or Botelho were trusted by the Party. Penha indicated that Fontaine's requesting Botelho to make a bomb could be attributed directly to his intoxicated condition and that he would be unable to make any plans for violence because he did not have the mental ability to act without help or cooperation from other persons. At the time Fontaine and Botelho discussed this idea

61-7582

- 1 - Bufile (100-372696 (Armando Penha)
- 1 - Bufile (100-452851 (Michael Russo)
- 1 - Bufile (100-377962 [redacted])

NOT RECORDED  
MAR 31 1958

BFR:bam/jas  
(8)

61 APR 10 1958

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 3746

Memorandum to Mr. Boardman  
Re: HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES  
ARMANDO FENHA  
61-7582

with Fenna, who was then section organizer of the CP in New Bedford, Massachusetts, Fenna discouraged them from considering violent action of this type in the future.

On 3-25-58 SAC, Boston advised copies of Fenna's reports in this matter had been previously made available to Departmental attorneys in the preparation of the Russo Smith Act case and that Departmental Attorney [ ] contacted the Boston Office 3-24-58 and again reviewed Fenna's informant reports in this matter. [ ] attempted to contact Fenna for interview; however, Fenna was not available for interview until 3-27-58. [ ] therefore decided to drop the matter and return to Washington leaving Boston 8:30 A.M., 3-25-58. It therefore appears no further action is necessary in this matter.

OBSERVATIONS:

The Department has been furnished all pertinent facts in this matter in connection with the Michael Russo case and as recently as 3-24-58, Department Attorney [ ] reviewed Fenna's informant reports in the Boston Office.

ACTION:

None. For your information.

1 - Mr. Rose

SAC, Boston 

April 4, 1958

Director, FBI (100-372696)-96

REC-19

TEL - X3

ARMANDO PENHA  
FORMER BUREAU INFORMANTReurlet dated March 25, 1958, advising the Boston  
Office of 

Referral/Consult

Referral/Consult

Continue to afford all contacts with Penha close supervision and control and fully evaluate all information furnished by him to insure justification of payments. Payments should only be made to him for information furnished by him to your office on an exclusive basis.

Referral/Consult

he will no longer be under the direct supervision of your office and payments to him should be immediately discontinued and the Bureau advised.

## NOTE ON YELLOW:

Penha was informant 1950-1955 furnishing valuable information regarding the CP. He has publicly testified at recent HCUA hearings in Boston and was given considerable front-page publicity. Inasmuch as he is no longer in a position to develop current information regarding security matters of interest to the Bureau, there is no objection to

Referral/Consult

BFR:pw:hrt:jas (4)

APR 11 1958

MAIL ROOM ☒

MAILED 5

APR 4 - 1958

COMM-FBI



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-372696)

DATE: 3/25/58

b7E

FROM : SAC, BOSTON SUBJECT: ARMANDO PENHA  
(FORMER )

As the Bureau is aware, PENHA testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities at Boston, Massachusetts, during the period of the hearings, namely, March 18-21, 1958.

Referral/Consult

RHB:cm

(3)

REGISTERED MAIL

REC-18

100-372696-96

EX-128

MAR 27 1958

Let to Boston  
4-4-58  
BFR: pur [signature]

[Handwritten signatures and stamps]

b7E

1 - Mr. Nease  
 1 - Mr. Boardman  
 1 - Mr. Belmont  
 1 - Mr. Donohue  
 March 21, 1958

SAC, Boston 

Director, FBI (100-372696)

ARMANDO PENHA  
 SOURCE OF INFORMATION

Re previous communications concerning Penha's public appearance before the House Committee on Un-American Activities on 3-18-58 during which he testified regarding his knowledge of communist activities in the New England area.

Authority is outstanding effective March 15, 1958, to pay him on a strict c.o.d. basis up to a maximum of \$75 per month for his services for a period of four months. Now that Penha has been publicly exposed, he will not be in a position to produce information as in the past and you should, therefore, make certain that the assistance he renders and information he produces are carefully evaluated and any payments made to him fully justified. Prior to the termination of the present payment period, if you feel additional payments to Penha are justified, you should submit an appropriate letter in accordance with Section 107N of the Manual of Instructions containing your recommendations in that regard. Any recommendations which you may make for additional payments should, of course, take into consideration the fact that Penha's value has materially decreased in view of his public disclosure.

1 - Bufile 61-7582 (HCUA)

JDD:jas (8) *jac*

REC-10

MAR 31 1958

See memo from Belmont to Boardman, captioned "House Committee on Un-American Activities, New England Area, IS-C; Armando Penha, Source of Information," dated March 21, 1958, JDD:jas.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

COMM - FBI

MAR 21 1958

MAILED 30

64 APR 10 1958

APR 2 1958

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 61-7582-1

F B I

Date: March 28, 1958

b7E

Transmit the following in PLAIN TEXT  
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-372696)

FROM: SAC, BOSTON

SUBJECT: ARMANDO PENHA  
FORMER BUREAU INFORMANT

Re Boston airtel to Bureau dated 3/25/58.

PENHA met with AL HIRSHBERG, a writer, at the latter's Brookline, Mass. apartment on 3/27/58 and made tentative arrangements for HIRSHBERG to write PENHA's story in book form to be published by Lippincott Publishers in Philadelphia, unless PENHA chooses a different publisher. Mr. LORD, of New York City, HIRSHBERG's agent, is contacting Lippincott today to see if they will accept book. If publisher accepts book, HIRSHBERG will write story latter part of April and prior to its publication in June, there would be some feature articles carried in either LOOK magazine or the SATURDAY EVENING POST.

PENHA is to telephone LORD today to ascertain if publisher will accept story and terms. At that time, he may tentatively come to agreement but will insist upon written contract. PENHA told HIRSHBERG he would not write a story using names of people because he did not wish to be sued for liable, but rather, he would tell a story based upon his experiences. Bureau will be kept advised.

LAUGHLIN

③ - Bureau (100-372696)  
1 - Boston   
JBD/bmh  
(4)

REC-13

100-372696-98

MAR 31 1958

EX-135

Approved: *[Signature]*

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

Per

64 APR 3 1958

64 APR 10 1958

March 31, 1958

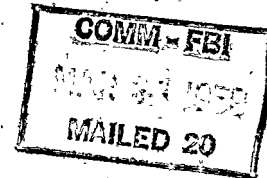
AIRTEL

To: SAC, Boston 

From: Director, FBI (100-372696) 99

PERSONAL ATTENTIONARMANDO PENHA  
SOURCE OF INFORMATION

REC- 92



EX - 131

Reurairtel 3-25-58.

Bufiles contain no identifiable derogatory information regarding Al Hirshberg, Sterling Lord or the Lippencott Publishers.

For your information, William Buckley of Henry Holt and Company advised the Bureau 3-28-58 he had been contacted by Sterling Lord who advised Al Hirshberg wants to collaborate with Penha in writing a book. Buckley desired to know if Penha was responsible, had clearance from the FBI to tell his story and if it was possible to give him any advice as to what he should do concerning this book.

Buckley was advised Penha did not have Bureau clearance and the FBI would not furnish such a clearance; that Penha was a good informant, but he should take into consideration the possibility of libel, over-exaggeration and sensationalism in a situation of this kind; that the Bureau would not in any way underwrite, check or approve anything that Penha wrote. Buckley stated that he planned to turn the offer down, commenting that Henry Holt and Company is publishing "Masters of Deceit" and from what he knows of the situation Penha could only discuss matters existing in one section of the country.

To avoid involvement and possible embarrassment to the Bureau in this matter, you should continue to be most discreet in all contacts with and inquiries regarding Penha. Specifically advise

NOTE ON YELLOW: Penha was informant 1950-55 furnishing valuable information regarding the Communist Party. As informant he did not attempt to capitalize on his informant status, however, he publicly testified at recent HCUA hearings in Boston and was given considerable front page publicity. He is apparently considering writing a book at this time. Details of William Buckley's contact with the Bureau is set forth in memorandum from Clyde Tolson to the Director dated 3-28-58. (All Bureau Supervisors Domestic Intelligence being advised separately the Bureau will not in any way underwrite or approve any articles or book written by a Bureau informant.)

Tolson ☒  
 Nichols ☒  
 Boardman ☒  
 Belmont ☒  
 Mohr ☒  
 Parsons ☒  
 Rosen ☒  
 Tamm ☒  
 Trotter ☒  
 Nease ☒  
 Tele. Room ☒  
 Holloman ☒  
 Gandy ☒

MAIL ROOM ☐

BFR:blb/jas (4)

Airtel to Boston  
RE: ARMANDO PENHA  
SOURCE OF INFORMATION  
100-372696

Penha that he must be truthful and factual in any book or publication he elects to write and that the Bureau will not sponsor or endorse such articles. Your office should not accept from Penha or his publishers any articles for the purpose of reviewing same as to do so can be construed as an approval by the Bureau. Any inquiries from publishers should be answered in line with the above information given William Buckley.

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Records Branch3/27, 1957

☐ Name Check Unit - Room 6523  
☐ Service Unit - Room 6524  
☐ Forward to File Review  
☒ Attention   
☒ Return to

b6  
b7CSupervisor 1243 Room Ext.

## Type of References Requested:

☐ Regular Request (Analytical Search)  
☒ All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)  
☐ Subversive References Only  
☐ Nonsubversive References Only  
☐ Main References Only

## Type of Search Requested:

☐ Restricted to Locality of \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Exact Name Only (On the Nose)  
☐ Buildup ☐ Variations  
☐ Check for Alphabetical Loyalty Form

Subject Lipsoncatt Publishers  
Birthdate & Place \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

Localities NY - BSR# \_\_\_\_\_ Date 3/27 Searcher Initials JP  
FILE NUMBER SERIALNR

*[Handwritten signature/initials]*

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Records Branch3/27

, 1957

<input type="checkbox"/>	Name Check Unit - Room 6523
<input type="checkbox"/>	Service Unit - Room 6524
<input type="checkbox"/>	Forward to File Review
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Attention <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 0 20px;"> </span>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Return to <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 0 20px;"> </span> <u>1243</u>
	Supervisor Room Ext.

## Type of References Requested:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Regular Request (Analytical Search)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Subversive References Only
<input type="checkbox"/>	Nonsubversive References Only
<input type="checkbox"/>	Main References Only

## Type of Search Requested:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Restricted to Locality of _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Exact Name Only (On the Nose)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Buildup <input type="checkbox"/> Variations
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check for Alphabetical Loyalty Form

Subject    
Birthdate & Place    
Address  

Localities \_\_\_\_\_

R# \_\_\_\_\_ Date 3/27 Searcher Initials *[Signature]*  
FILE NUMBER SERIAL

94-3-4-33-141

*[Handwritten signature]*

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Records Branch

3/28

1957

<input type="checkbox"/>	Name Check Unit - Room 6523
<input type="checkbox"/>	Service Unit - Room 6524
<input type="checkbox"/>	Forward to File <input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Attention <input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Return to <input type="checkbox"/>
	Supervisor Room Ext.

## Type of References Requested:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Regular Request (Analytical Search)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Subversive References Only
<input type="checkbox"/>	Nonsubversive References Only
<input type="checkbox"/>	Main _____ References Only

## Type of Search Requested:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Restricted to Locality of _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Exact Name Only (On the Nose)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Buildup <input type="checkbox"/> Variations
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check for Alphabetical Loyalty Form

Subject \_\_\_\_\_  
Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

Localities \_\_\_\_\_

R# \_\_\_\_\_ Date 3/28 Searcher Initials YJB  
FILE NUMBER SERIAL~~100-53431-299010~~~~94-41160-1~~~~67-531922~~NR  
100-53431-299010  
94-41160-1  
67-531922  
NR



b6  
b7C  
b7E

F B I

Date: March 25, 1958

Transmit the following in PLAIN TEXT  
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Parsons	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-372696)  
Attention: SECURITY INFORMANT SECTION

FROM : SAC, BOSTON [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: ARMANDO PENHA  
SOI SOURCE OF INFORMATION

ARMANDO PENHA was interviewed at the Boston Office by ASAC WADE BROMWELL, Supervisor [REDACTED] and SA [REDACTED] on March 22, 1958. As the Bureau is aware, PENHA was disclosed in public testimony before HCUA in its Boston hearings 3/18-21/58, inclusive, as being a former FBI informant.

PENHA was instructed in accordance with Section 107Q of the Manual of Instructions. PENHA stated he was proud to have been able to work for the Bureau, that he appreciated the advice furnished to him on 3/22/58, and that he would never bring any discredit upon the Bureau. He said he would like to take "a complete back seat as far as any publicity is concerned."

On 3/24/58 PENHA contacted SA [REDACTED] and stated he just received a Special Delivery letter at his home from AL HIRSHBERG, presently vacationing in Florida. HIRSHBERG indicated his home is in Brookline, Mass. HIRSHBERG told PENHA he wrote a book for JIM PIERSALL, Boston Red Sox baseball player, entitled "Fear Strikes Out," and recently wrote two articles in "Look" Magazine on Father RALPH PFAU, which articles are going to be written in book form by HIRSHBERG and published by Lippencott.

END PAGE ONE

cc: ③-Bureau (100-372696) (RM)  
2-New York (RM)  
1-Boston [REDACTED]JBD:cm  
(6)

REC-92

214-2  
MAR 27 1958

EX-131

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

[redacted]

HIRSHBERG's letter advised PENHA to contact his agent, STERLING LORD, 15 E. 48th St., NYC, which PENHA was going to do by telephone March 24, 1958, at 1 PM. PENHA stated he would make no binding agreement with LORD or HIRSHBERG and would insist on a written contract if their terms suited him. PENHA was to recontact LORD on March 25, 1958, to make further arrangements to meet HIRSHBERG and LORD personally at a later date in Boston to discuss terms.

PENHA advised SA [redacted] on 3/24/58 that he had a tentative appointment with the New Bedford Standard Times on Saturday, 3/22/58, to give his story to that paper. However, he did not keep this appointment as he is toying with the idea of selling his story in book form. It was firmly impressed upon PENHA by SA [redacted] again that the Bureau would not sponsor or endorse any book or publication which he alleges to write. PENHA stated he fully understood this restriction and advised SA [redacted] that he would keep the Bureau advised of any efforts of this nature in which he becomes involved.

PENHA stated that he is entirely without funds, without employment, and is not qualified to seek unemployment benefits at the present time. He stated that he is now desirous of selling his story to a person or publisher of a reliable nature in the hope that this would alleviate his personal financial situation.

The Boston indices contain no derogatory information concerning AL HIRSHBERG, STERLING LORD or the Lippencott Publishers.

The Bureau and New York are requested to check their indices with reference to STERLING LORD and the Lippencott Publishers and advise the Boston Division in the event any information is located which will reflect upon the reliability of STERLING LORD or this publishing company.

LAUGHLIN

*files being reviewed.  
act*

F B I

b7E

Date: 4/3/58

Transmit the following in PLAIN TEXT  
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Parsons	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Trotter	
Mr. Clayton	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-372696)  
(ATT: SECURITY INFORMANT SECTION)  
FROM: SAC, BOSTON [REDACTED]  
SUBJECT: ARMANDO PENHA  
SOURCE OF INFORMATION

Attached are two articles from the New Bedford Standard Times of April 1, 1958 indicating that Mayor FRANCIS LAWLOR of New Bedford, Mass. has appointed ARMANDO PENHA as an investigator for the City of New Bedford at a salary of \$65.00 per week.

In connection with monies owed by PENHA to the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security the original sum was \$1,233.00. PENHA had an agreement with that office to pay \$5.00 a month and paid a total of \$85.00 which left a balance of \$1,148.00.

The Division of Employment Security Office had previously told PENHA that if he ever testified as a government witness that office would consider cancelling the balance due and forgiving him the debt.

Following his testimony before the HCUA hearings at Boston during the week of 3/17/58, PENHA contacted the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security, and they advised him that in view of his testimony before the HCUA they had cancelled the entire amount owed by PENHA, and they would confirm it in writing.

PENHA advised on 4/1/58 that he received a letter from JOSEPH C. MC HUGH, Chief Supervisor of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security, dated 3/27/58, to the effect that his case "having been adjusted to our satisfaction we are closing the case on our records".

EX-136  
3 - Bureau (100-372696) (Enc:2) (RM)  
1 - Boston [REDACTED]  
JBD:gm (4)

ENCLOSURE

LAUGHLIN

REC-4

100-372696-100

EX-136

1958

Approved:

Sent

Per

61 APR 10 1958

Special Agent in Charge

INT. SEC.

PENHA informant 1950-1951. Recently testified before House Un-American Activities Committee in Boston. Penha during period of unemployment (while receiving payments from Bureau) at behest of Communist Party members made application for and received unemployment benefits. Circumstances discussed with Massachusetts Division of Employment Security officials and arrangements made for Penha to make restitution on installment basis. Officials further advised that in event Penha testified publicly this indebtedness would be considered paid in full and the entire amount owed by Penha would be canceled. Contacts with Penha being closely supervised. ACTION: None, this is for your information.



—Standard-Times Staff Photo

COUNTER-SPY Armando Penha is congratulated by Mayor Lawler as he accepts appointment by the mayor as an investigator in the Veterans Benefits office. The Fairhaven man was the star witness for the Government, as an FBI counter-spy, during hearings in Boston.

## Mayor Names Penha to Post Checking Vets Medical Cost

Armando Penha, FBI counter-spy and star witness before the House Un-American Activities Committee during last month's Boston hearings on Communist infiltration, is to become an employee of the City of New Bedford. Mayor Lawler today named the

37-year-old Fairhaven resident, father of four children, to the new position of investigator of medical aid costs in the Veterans Benefits office. The post will pay \$65 weekly. Mr. Penha will begin his duties Monday, the mayor said.

The appointment stems from a charge by the State office of the Department of Veterans Services that New Bedford's medical costs for veteran recipients have been far out of line with other communities of Massachusetts.

"Much has been said by many groups honoring Mr. Penha for his patriotic works," said Mayor Lawler in announcing the appointment while Mr. Penha stood before the chief executive in his office.

"On behalf of the City of New Bedford and its citizens this is our way of saying thank you by offering you this position and to wish you success."

Adolph F. Coimbra, agent in charge of the Veterans Benefits office here, said he plans to take Mr. Penha to Boston to familiarize him with the work as it stems from the Boston office.

The State and city share equally the cost of veterans benefits. Mr. Penha, a veteran, will work directly under Mr. Coimbra.

*New Bedford Standard Times*

Boston Traveler  
Boston Herald  
Boston Globe  
Boston American  
Boston Record  
Christian Science Monitor

Date:  
Edition:  
Author or  
Editor:  
Title

*Page 1*  
*4/1/58*  
**ARMANDO PENHA**

Class. or *Bufile*  
Character:  
Page: *100-372696*

COPIES DESTROYED

41 APR 5 1963

*100-372696-160*

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 3 - 1958	
FBI - BOSTON	

ENCLOSURE

F B I

b7E

Date: 4/1/58

Transmit the following in PLAIN TEXT

(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL (REGISTERED)

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Parsons	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Trotter	
Mr. Clayton	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-372696) ATT: SECURITY INFORMANT SECTION

FROM : SAC, BOSTON

SUBJECT: ARMANDO PENHA  
FORMER BUREAU INFORMANT

ReBosairtel to Bureau 3/28/58.

PENHA advised on 3/31/58 that Lippincott Publishing Co., Philadelphia, Pa. wanted him to go to Philadelphia to discuss details re publishing PENHA's story and PENHA did not wish to make the trip.

STERLING LORD, NYC, agent for AL HIRSHBERG, who has offered to write book for PENHA, has now advised PENHA that the Julian Mess Co. of 10 West 40th St., NYC, will publish the book and has offered the highest price.

New York search indices and provide any available data to Bureau and Boston re Julian Mess Co.

- ③ - Bureau (100-372696) (RM)
- 2 - New York (RM)
- 1 - Boston

JBD:ras/RW  
(6)

REC-18  
EX-131

APR 2 1958

65 APR 11 1958

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

~~SECRET~~

Dise

Assistant Attorney General  
Internal Security Division

April 9, 1958

Director, FBI

DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:  
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE  
DATE 04-21-2011

**INFORMANT REPORTS RELATING TO  
COMMUNIST PARTY ADVOCACY OF  
USE OF FORCE AND VIOLENCE**

b6  
b7C

Reference is made to the memorandum from the Internal Security Division dated March 27, 1958, captioned "United States v. Russo," which requested that the Department be furnished with certain documents containing information submitted to our Boston Office by former confidential informant Armando Penha.

Forwarded herewith is one copy each of six documents selected by Department Attorney [redacted] during his recent review of information furnished by Penha. It is noted that the interoffice memoranda dated March 19, 1954, and February 4, 1955, contain references to the Security Index which references must be excised prior to any production of these reports in court. At such time as it appears that Penha may be used as a witness in any case, it is requested that the Department advise this Bureau. Specific comments will then be made concerning any additional material in these documents which should be excised prior to their production.

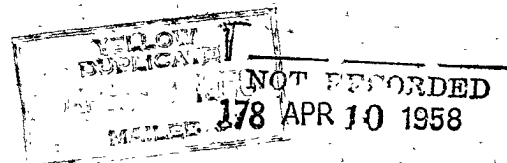
Enclosures (6)  
100-427375

cc 100-3-74 (Compros)

cc 100-372696 (Penha)

NOTE ON YELLOW: Classified "~~Secret~~" inasmuch as it contains references to SI.

PWD:pat  
(6)



64 APR 14 1958  
MAIL ROOM ☐

~~SECRET~~

ORIGINAL

b7E

F B I

Date: 4/7/58

Transmit the following in PLAIN TEXT  
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-372696) (RM)

FROM: SAC, BOSTON [REDACTED]

ANTONIO PENHA  
(Former [REDACTED])

Enclosed herewith is an article which appeared in the "New Bedford Standard Times" on 4/2/58. The article, captioned "PENHA Details Eight Years of Furtive Mirror - Watching" is the first in a series of articles appearing in the "New Bedford Standard - Times" concerning PENHA's experiences in the Communist Party.

The enclosed article is in addition to those submitted to the Bureau on a daily basis.

Additional articles appearing in the "New Bedford Standard - Times" concerning PENHA's experiences in the CP will be forwarded to the Bureau.

LAUGHLIN

ENCLOSURE

- 3- Bureau (100-372696) (RM) (Encl.)  
2- Boston [REDACTED] (ANTONIO PENHA)  
(1- 100-32353) (HCHA)

RIB:bat  
(5)

REC-78

100-372696-102  
APR 8 1958

AIR TEL

INT. SEC.

50 APR 15 1958

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge



# Penha Details Eight Years Of Furtive Mirror-Watching

(An exclusive series of interviews with Armando Penha, Fairhaven counter-spy for the FBI in the Communist Party for eight years, has been obtained by The Standard-Times. For the first time, Mr. Penha—and his wife—tell in detail their experiences during those harrowing years, climaxed by his dramatic disclosures before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in Boston two weeks ago. The series reveals the ominous extent of the Communist conspiracy in this immediate area.)

By ROBERT FINN  
Standard-Times Staff Writer

A small group of men stood quietly in the living room of a second-floor apartment in North Fairhaven. One of them read a short oath from a small book, then looked at another member of the group and said, "Do you accept that?"

"I do," said Armando Penha. With these two words, he became a full-fledged member of the Communist Party, district of New England, New Bedford section.

This incident marks the beginning of the tension-filled existence of a counter-spy as told to The Standard-Times in a series of exclusive interviews.

This incident took place in May 1950. For some months before

that night, and for eight long, harrowing years after it, Armando Penha was to lead a double life. He was a Communist, rising to a position of national prominence in the party.

He also was making detailed reports of everything he learned and everyone he met to two agencies: The Federal Bureau of Investigation and the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

That May night in 1950 he paid an initiation fee of 50 cents. For the next eight years he continued paying not only in money, but in sleepless nights, in bone-weary fatigue, in long, tiring journeys, in virtual estrangement from his family, friends and children, in utter subservience to the Communist conspiracy.

The party ordered him to give up his job and take another, at a sharp cut in salary. His house often was under party surveillance. His wife and children were suddenly confronted and questioned by party members while he was away. His home itself was searched by the Communists in his absence, without a word of explanation or apology. His car, too, was searched while he was at work.

Task after time-consuming task was piled on him. He was ordered to travel long distances to attend meetings, required to study mountains of Communist literature and forced to attempt to infect his very friends and neighbors, even his own children, with the Communist propaganda like

## Keeps Sending Reports

All these things he did—and all the time the reports kept coming in to the FBI and the committee, naming names, pinpointing places, detailing party techniques.

His health, never robust, began to crack under the strain, and he spent some time in Acushnet Hospital suffering from exhaustion and double pneumonia. His neighbors noticed that he withdrew from them, stayed up late at night, typing for hours.

They marveled at his capacity for work, meanwhile accepting his explanation that he was running a free-lance insurance business in addition to his regular work.

## Family Grows

His family grew, with the addition of two daughters. For this, he was severely criticized by the party.

"They told me, first, that when we were living under Socialism, it would be all right for me to have 20 children, but not now. They also said that it created a problem of security, in keeping my Communist connections secret, and it took me away from my necessary party activities," Mr. Penha recalls now.

The party required that Mr. Penha, as a "secret" Communist, should take care not to reveal his party membership, much less the position of leadership to which

(Continued on Page 3)

Bedford STANDARD-

Boston Traveler  
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ENCLOSURE

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# Penha Details Eight Years Of Fear, Mirror-Watching

(Continued from Page 1)

he ultimately rose, to anyone outside the party.

At his work he carefully had to avoid appearing as a radical, or even a liberal. With his family, however, he faced the difficult job of impressing upon them that he was a political radical, without alienating them.

## Brother Owns Barber Shop

One reason for this was that one of his brothers owned a barber shop on South Water Street in New Bedford.

"I knew that party members and sympathizers were going there in order to question him about me without his knowledge, and check on my activities," Mr. Penha said.

If the party got the impression that he was not working hard enough for them, it might mean the end of everything, including his FBI work. As a result, his brother drew increasingly apart from him because of his "radical" leanings.

Mr. Penha lost completely his social contacts. There simply was no time for it.

"If a Communist was to practice all the things the party tells him to do, there would have to be 42 hours in the day instead of 24," he says now.

## Castigated by Party

The former New York Yankee fan found time to attend only one baseball game during his entire eight years in the Communist Party. He took a single one-week vacation trip the first year, and was promptly castigated by the party for allowing himself to get out of touch with them.

He never did it again.

"In the party, if you are reprimanded, you don't do a thing a second time," he says.

On his frequent trips in New England on party business, he used his own car a good deal. Sometimes he would drive only to Fall River, leave his car in an inconspicuous place for a few days and be picked up there by another party member.

"We traveled all over New England, using security techniques to make sure we were not followed. We never took the most direct route, or the route the average person could be expected to follow. Sometimes we would even double back on our own tracks."

## Learns Party Techniques

The party taught him that if he was enroute to a secret meeting, and had even the slightest suspicion he was being followed, he was not to go to the meeting.

They taught him that it is better to have two or three comrades absent from a meeting for security reasons and to have others present in safety.

Several times when Mr. Penha thought himself followed, while enroute to New York City, he suddenly turned off and drove to West Point, then up the Hudson to Albany and home through the

mountains, converting a party journey into an apparent harmless sightseeing trip.

## Slows Car

If he thought he was being followed, Mr. Penha would slow his own car down drastically to see if the suspected pursuer passed him. He would even stop his car dead, thus compelling the pursuer to pass.

"Often, rather than immediately turning back, we would go ahead a while, then turn suddenly into a side street, stop, quickly back out and head back the way we came. This would force the other car to do the same, if he was truly following us," he said.

Mr. Penha became so indoctrinated with these techniques that even while driving to work or into New Bedford on a shopping trip, his eyes would be glued to the rear-view mirror to watch for anyone who might be following him.

## Stops to 'Window-Shop'

In the city, he would stop and apparently "window-shop" in a store window. In reality he was watching to see who might be following him.

Such were the conspiratorial methods imposed on Armando Penha for eight years. Each of these and many more he painstakingly reported back to the FBI.

Great as these pressures were, it was a concern of a more personal nature that led him to ask the FBI to allow him to end his term in the Communist Party by giving public testimony against it in open hearings.

## Was 'Tired'

"My daughter Joan was getting to an impressionable age, and I was tired," he says. "The bureau was looking for a good witness for its Boston hearings, and the committee had wanted to hold hearings here for some time."

"I did not want my daughter to become incurably affected by the Communist poison," he said.

This simple explanation conveys volumes of meaning. The party demanded he show evidence that he had started to indoctrinate his oldest daughter with the Communist line! Joan, who is now 15, had no idea her father was working for the FBI.

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### Teaches Daughter

"I tried to make her understand on the basis of everyday, simple things, such as peace, or the minimum wage. I was doing it in such a vague way that she was not being indoctrinated, yet when other Communists came to the house and questioned her, she could give them an answer that would satisfy the party," he commented.

He had to allow his daughter to read *The Challenge*, a publication of the Labor Youth League, which sells the party line to children without ever once mentioning the word Communism or giving

### Ask Him to Teach

"Most of those times I was in pretty good health, however," he comments with a smile. He also was able to turn aside, without arousing suspicion, party requests that he teach some of these youth classes himself.

"These classes were cleverly and shrewdly done, so that the children never were presented directly with the idea of Communism. The teachers first made the child comfortable, so that all the pressure was indirect. Then the more advanced students were brought into the Labor Youth League itself, where Communist doctrine was taught them more openly," he added.

Sometimes the children would be kept overnight at these parties, and a more "advanced" girl would be placed in the same bedroom with Joan Penha, to talk to her further about the lessons of the day.

### Daughter Given Task

Once, after Joan entered Fairhaven High School, the party handed her a dozen or 15 copies of *The Challenge* to pass out to other students at the high school.

Mr. Penha was able to persuade his daughter not to do this, and to tell the party that it might hurt her father's insurance business.

"Her party classes never interfered with her school work. I did not allow it," says Mr. Penha, a devoted family man.

He does recall one occasion, where his own Communist membership indirectly earned his daughter extra credit at school. Once in a history class, Joan was required to prepare an outline on the career of an American historical figure prominent in the abolition movement during the Civil War. Mr. Penha has forgotten exactly who it was, but thinks it may have been John Brown.

### Gets Out Party Books

"One evening," he recalls, "I got out one of the party books on the Negro question, which contained some data on this man. Just to try out for myself the effectiveness of the party line. I had her prepare her outline from this party book, where the story was twisted to suit the Communist philosophy.

"My daughter was actually commended for her outline by the teacher. He thought she had done

an outstanding job of outside research. He did not recognize or even suspect that the information had come from a Communist source, nor was he in any way a dupe or sympathizer.

"He only recognized that she had obtained information that no one else had and praised her for her extra work.

"He asked her where she got the information, and she merely said, 'From one of my father's books.'

"He gave her a mark of A-plus for that outline. It was the only mark of its kind in the whole class," he said.

(Next: Penha tells how he got into the Communist Party, and how he was forced to use ruthless Communist methods to prevent being exposed by party members as a counter-spy.)

(Another Penha Story and Picture on Page 4)

### Classes Described

Slickest technique the party had for indoctrinating its youth was a series of secret youth classes to which party members were ordered to send their children. Here again, the word Communism was never mentioned. The whole operation was in fact dressed up to look—to the children themselves—like a children's party, with games and toys.

The teachers were hard-core Communist leaders.

Joan Penha attended about half a dozen of these classes without ever knowing that she was in a Communist youth class or that they were in fact being held in secret.

The games and refreshments carefully were interlarded with lessons on such general subjects as "peace," at which the party line was subtly instilled in the young minds.

### Technique Outlined

"Once the problems were presented," says Mr. Penha, "then they posed the question: What is the answer for all these things? That is where the party line came in."

These secret sessions also gave the party higherups a chance to question Joan about her father's activities. Mr. Penha knew this, since he himself had been given the task of checking the reliability of other party members in this area.

"Even as a party leader, I wasn't immune myself," he says.

These children's parties, held in various homes near Greater Boston, usually lasted from four to six hours. On several occasions, Mr. Penha was able to get his daughter excused from classes on the grounds of his own illness.

### New Bedford STANDARD-TIMES

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b7E

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-372696)

FROM: SAC, BOSTON [REDACTED]

ARMANDO PENHA  
(Former [REDACTED])

Enclosed herewith is an article captioned, "Penha Tells How All Loyal Americans Can Fight Reds," which appeared in the "New Bedford Standard - Times" for 4/9/58. This article is one in a series which are being printed as a result of interview with PENHA by ROBERT FINN, "New Bedford Standard - Times" Staff Writer, which reflects information pertaining to PENHA's career as an Informant for the FBI in the New Bedford area.

Enclosed article is in addition to those which are submitted to the Bureau on a daily basis.

Enclosed article is the final in the series of articles being written about PENHA by "New Bedford Standard - Times."

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# Penha Tells How All Loyal Americans Can Fight Reds

(This is the last of a series based on exclusive Standard-Times interviews in which Armando Penha, former Fair-haven counter-spy for the FBI in the Communist Party, and Mrs. Penha have revealed the ominous extent of the Communist conspiracy in this immediate area.)

By ROBERT FINN  
Standard-Times Staff Writer

Since his release from the iron discipline of the Communist conspiracy, Armando Penha has become a man with a mission. That mission: Explaining to all who will listen just what Americans can do to help fight Communism in their midst.

He is convinced, first of all, that the Communist Party is a greater menace today than it has ever been. Secondly, he feels that the only way to fight the party is to turn its own methods against it. Since the close of the Boston hearings, many persons have expressed doubt as to what was accomplished.

"Certainly," they say, "those who were named were exposed, but what can be done to them? No court action can be taken, except possibly for contempt of Congress in a few cases. What, if anything, can be done to counteract these people?"

## Urges Support

Mr. Penha believes the answer lies in strong and active public support of bills now before the Committee on Un-American Activities aimed at tightening the nation's anti-subversive laws.

The Communists, Mr. Penha knows, are experts at organizing public support for their own dubious causes. Now is the time for anti-Communists to take the offensive themselves and employ the party's tactics against it.

"This is a challenge," he says, "for everyone who considers himself a true American, to work through legitimate clubs and organizations of any type, on behalf of this legislation."

## Bill Outlined

The particular bill in question, House Bill 9937, contains a total of 17 new proposals on the anti-subversive front. Among them are provisions:

Making it a misdemeanor to misbehave before a congressional committee.

Prohibiting Communist lawyers from practicing before executive departments and congressional committees.

Making it an offense to use a false name while procuring employment in defense industry.

Extending the present statute of limitations for certain seditious and subversive activities.

Expanding control of foreign political propaganda coming into this country.

Permitting stationing of Immigration officers in foreign countries.

Strengthening passport security and travel control restrictions on suspected subversives.

Also included is a provision, re-defining the word "organize" to allow anti-subversive legislation to be used against a much wider variety of party activities.

## Would Go Further

"Each of us should see to it," Mr. Penha believes strongly, "that in his club or office, a committee of two is appointed to obtain and distribute cards to the members or workers, lining them up in support of this bill. And they should make it their business to see that the cards are mailed to congressmen, not allowed to sit around in somebody's pocket."

Thus would the time-tested method of the Communist Party in drumming up support for its own aims be used against it.

Mr. Penha would go even further. If anyone refuses to sign up in support of these measures, his co-workers should make it their business to find out why.

It could be, he says, that some of the non-signers might be party members, sympathizers, or unknowing dupes.

## Party Concern Specific

The Communists, he emphasizes, are only concerned about such laws insofar as they themselves are affected. It is quite possible, for instance, to be opposed to some bill against which the party is also working, from other motives entirely.

The party cares nothing for these other considerations. If a bill contains even the slightest section injurious to Communist interests in any way, it must be destroyed, Communists say.

Through the establishment of Communist-front organizations they have been able to take over many a good cause and pervert it to their own ends. Mr. Penha recalls, a few years ago, the great success enjoyed by the party in posing as an advocate of rent control.

## Advises Politicians

"Even public officials were roped into Communist fronts without their knowledge on that issue," he says. "That is why public officials must and should be especially careful to screen the names of those backing an organization before they join it."

"And not just the president of the group, either, but all those in key positions. The party often uses the officers of a group as front men for its own behind-the-scenes activities."

"Even though I was a leader in the party, it was stressed that I, too, should infiltrate legitimate organizations and groups for the

party. This is going on all the time."

## Urges Study

Mr. Penha urges all Americans to make themselves as well-informed as they possibly can on the subject of Communism. He believes we should study it as doctors study cancer, in order to learn how best to fight against it.

He has two suggestions for those wishing to learn more about the Red conspiracy, in the midst of which he spent eight years of his life: Read J. Edgar Hoover's new book, "Masters of Deceit," and read the reports and digests of previous hearings on Communist infiltration held by various committees of the Government.

The party's great aim in the trade union movement, he says, is to create an atmosphere of complacency so the public will not know or care about combatting subversion through new laws or other suggested means. The two greatest enemies the party now has, he believes, are the FBI and the Committee on Un-American Activities.

## Party Will Do Anything

"They will do anything to combat those agencies," Mr. Penha says. Public support for the work

done by these groups is one of the best means of fighting the party.

In his own appearance before the committee in Boston, Mr. Penha estimates he was not able to cover more than a minute fraction of his work for the party.

To explain it all in detail, he says, would take "several weeks" of testimony by him alone. He is still under a continuing subpoena from the committee.

## Public Must Act

But, he warns, the hearings will not mean a thing unless the people at large take up the challenge and let their elected representatives know that they stand behind efforts to bring the Communist conspiracy under stricter control of the nation's laws.

Despite all that he has gone through, Armando Penha refuses to look upon himself as an exceptional person.

"After all, in any war," he says, "there are many men who are just average fellows who do things when the pressure is on that they almost would not be capable of under ordinary circumstances."

"You just do not know what you can accomplish until you have to do it," he says.

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TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-372696)

FROM: SAC, BOSTON [REDACTED]

 AUSA DO PENNA  
 (Former [REDACTED])

Enclosed herewith is an article captioned, "Mrs. PENNA Credits God, Teamwork." which appeared in the "New Bedford Standard - Times" for 4/7/58.

This article is one in a series setting forth results of interviews with PENNA by ROBERT TREN, Staff Writer of the "New Bedford Standard - Times," concerning PENNA's activities as an informant for the FBI.

Enclosed article is in addition to those submitted to the Bureau on a daily basis.

Boston will continue to submit these articles as they appear in the "New Bedford Standard - Times".

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cc Baumgardner

# Mrs. Penha Credits God, Teamwork

(An exclusive series of interviews with Armando Penha, Fairhaven counter-spy for the FBI in the Communist Party for eight years, has been obtained by The Standard-Times. For the first time, Mr. Penha—and his wife—all in detail their experiences during those harrowing years, climaxed by his dramatic disclosures before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in Boston two weeks ago. The series reveals the ominous extent of the Communist conspiracy in this immediate area.)

By GLORIA L. NEGRI  
Standard-Times Staff Writer

"I felt like giving up a long time ago . . . I cried plenty when Ed wasn't around, but I couldn't let him down . . . It was such a worthy cause, and he believed so much in what he was doing," So spoke Mrs. Cecilia Penha, wife of Armando Penha, who was an FBI counter-spy in the Communist Party for eight years.

Now, for the first time in those incredibly long years, pretty, vivacious Cecilia Penha hums happily as she goes about her household chores in the modest Fairhaven tenement at 22 Dover Street where she lives with her husband and their four children.

"I hadn't the heart to fix up the house while all that was going on," she said somewhat wistfully. "But now that it's over . . ."

## Prayer Helped

What kept her going, living a life so dangerous, yet so secret that even her mother and children knew nothing of it?

"God and teamwork," she answered without hesitation. "We would have gone crazy if we couldn't have prayed and if we didn't pull together."

Armando Penha has been "Ed" to the former Cecilia Borges since the day they met. "I was in a Portuguese play at Woodrow Wilson Hall, and Ed came backstage to congratulate me. He spoke such beautiful Portuguese, I was impressed." They were married a year later on Feb. 16, 1942.

The couple's fluency in the Portuguese language and Armando's skill in Italian found them jobs in the New York Office of Censorship in the early days of World War II. Some months later when her husband was inducted into the service, Cecilia Penha returned to New Bedford, pregnant with their first child. Her husband saw the child, Joan, for the first time when he came home two years later.

Now 15 and a high school Sophomore, Joan has a brother, Lawrence, 11, a 6th-Grader at Oxford School, and two sisters, Roberta, 5, and Susan, 2.

## She Was Afraid

The Penhas moved to Fairhaven 10 years ago. Two years later, Armando Penha became an undercover agent for the FBI. "I wasn't keen on the idea when Ed first told me," his wife recalled. "I had read about the lives of other counter-spies. And frankly, I was afraid."

What won her over?—"Well," she said, "Ed went into it with the idea of helping his fellowmen. I felt it was a calling for him, just as it is for someone who goes into the priesthood. The least I could do was stand by him."

For Cecilia Penha, her decision meant eight fantastic years of material and social privation, endless hours of anguish and worry and fear that every word she spoke to other than her husband might make him suspect.

"What was most difficult," she

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said, "was trying to cover up for Ed's every move."

To the Communists, who would arrive at their home unheralded at all hours, she had to explain her husband's every absence—some of them when he was with FBI authorities.

#### Answers Difficult

"With them (Communists) I would be answering one question and at the same time be anticipating the next and forming the answer. If I found the situation too tight, I would excuse myself to see to the children," she said.

To her mother and brothers, concerned over what they believed was her husband's deliberate neglect of her, she found it most difficult to fabricate why she was always alone with the children, why her relatives could never visit at their home.

"How could they come when the Commies might walk in any minute?" she asked. "How could I tell them that what Ed was doing was a 24-hour-a-day job?"

Many times she struggled onto buses with three small, tired children to return home after a Sunday visit with her family after refusing rides from her brothers, fearing they might find the Communists at her home.

And the neighbors would ask of Summer days when she and the children went to the beach without him: "Why doesn't your husband go with you?"—Or when his work took him out nights, they would wonder, "Why does he have to go out so much in the evenings?"

#### Missed Going Out

As it happened, Armando and Cecilia Penha didn't once go out to a movie or dinner together in all the eight years. "And I missed going out with him," she said. For diversion, she went to meetings of the Oxford School P-TA.

Time, money and precaution entered into it. Financially, the Penhas were hard set by the necessity for Mr. Penha to give his comfortably-paying insurance job for a less lucrative factory job. The Communists had told him he would never be able to advance in the party holding down a white-collar job.

Because of their curtailed finances, Armando Penha owns only two suits—one he bought 11 years ago when his son was born and another that was given him.

Cecilia Penha can't remember when an outfit was last bought either for herself or for the children. "God knows what we would

have done without' hand-me-downs from friends and my mother's talents as a seamstress," she wondered.

#### Joan Never Rebelled

But, she was more concerned for her daughter, Joan, an honor student at Fairhaven High School, than for herself. "Joanie has been a little mother to the younger children and a great help to me all through it," Mrs. Penha said. "Although she never knew what was going on, she obeyed even seemingly unreasonable demands without question. I needed only to raise an eyebrow, put my finger to my lips when the Communists were at our house for Joanie to act discreetly."

Because of the abnormal situation at home, Joan never could have her girl friends visit her. "It was too much of a risk," her mother said. Yet, Joanie never rebelled.

Being the oldest child, Joan was most affected by her father's Communist affiliations. For a half dozen or so times one year, she was sent to classes where children of Communists were

given saccharined doses of Communism in the guise of amusement. The day recently when Joan finally learned what the classes had been about, she felt so sick, she couldn't go to school.

It was Joan, too, whom her mother unhappily admits was the target for her own emotional upsets, often aggravated by the strain. And it was also she, among the children, whom the Communists "pumped" most for information about her father.

Her dad paid Joan a supreme tribute the day before he left for the Boston hearings. "I told Joanie what had been going on for the first time. I knew it was only a short time before the hearing and I felt she deserved it."

In a letter he wrote her from Boston, he said: "Joan of Arc, as you know, was a great saint. In this planet of ours, I am sure that there is not any other Joan who can fill your shoes."

#### Self-Portrait

Perhaps one thing that helped both Mrs. Penha and her oldest child is contained in Mrs. Penha's revealing portrait of her own personality. "I act a lot like Joanie, even though I am somewhat older," she smiled. "But ask me how much and I'll plead the 5th Amendment."

"It may be undignified, but I don't think anything of taking a sled and sliding out in the street with the children. Many times during those eight years, my sister-in-law would call up and say, 'Tell some jokes and make me laugh,' and I would. And I could almost have cried out in despair."

"But it was the children who have saved me. They call me 'Silly Mommie,' and Larry tells everyone I'm more fun than a barrel of monkeys," she said proudly.

"It seems funny," she reminisced, "but I was even a little grateful for the children's mild illnesses. They kept me busy and my mind off what was going on. And when there was nothing we could do, no one else I could turn to, I'd take them to my mother's."

"I think I would have broken down if it hadn't been for my mother, (Mrs. Manuel T. Borges of 70 Woodlawn Street). Many times she helped us financially. And she never questioned our



life, even, though she believed Ed was neglecting me.

"Just the other day, my mother came to our house and kissed him," Mrs. Penha related happily. "She said she never was able to do it before."

#### Can Go to Church Now

Cecilia Penha is also extremely happy about another phase of their new-found freedom from fear. "Now we can go to church," she beamed. For a family where religion is as important as it is to the Penhas, staying away from church because the Communists don't acknowledge God was very trying.

Despite the strange circumstances of their life, Mrs. Penha said the children never said anything out of order. Only in one way could Larry, who wants to be a missionary, have made the Communists suspicious.

"He used to walk down the street after catechism class, swinging his rosary beads and holding the catechism for all to see," his mother said. When Communists were upstairs, Joan would scurry outside and either confiscate the giveaway items or keep Larry out until the visitors had left.

Another time, outside playing, Larry told his playmates, "My aunt that's going to jail is upstairs having dinner with us."

The "aunt" Larry referred to was not going to jail but being deported to Poland for her Communist affiliations.

The appellation "aunt" and "uncle" was not used in the relative sense, at all. "We always taught the children respect," Mrs. Penha said. "And older people who visited frequently were always called 'aunt' and 'uncle.' In many cases, the adult visitors were Communists.

#### Back in Open Again

During the last year, the Penha children were able to take part in more church activities because their father, as a party leader, saw that key Communists were given extra duties that would keep them out of the area while his children were taking part.

It was not unusual for the comrades, when they had a few hours to spare, to ride around the Penha home to check on what was going on.

So, it was for the first time this last year that the Penha children marched in Our Lady of the Angels procession at St. Mary Church, nearby. And instead of Mrs. Penha watching the procession from the seclusion of her porch, she watched it from the sidewalk.

It was just this last year that Mrs. Penha was able to attend Sunday Mass regularly — again thanks to her mother. "I told the Communists staying away would make my mother suspicious."

And next Christmas, the manger that was hidden when the Communists started to come to visit will be placed under the Penha tree again.

(Next: How the Communists demanded that Mrs. Penha take a full part in the party conspiracy, and what it meant to family life.)



—Standard-Times Staff Photo

**A HAPPY MOMENT** in the life of Mrs. Armando Penha came when she was able to bring out of hiding her religious pictures and the crucifix that belongs on her living room wall. During her husband's eight years in the Communist Party these articles were carefully hidden, since any hint that he was a religious man would have brought deep suspicion of his sincerity as a Communist.

F B I

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Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Parsons	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Trotter	
Mr. Clayton	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

b7E

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-372696)

FROM: SAC, BOSTON [REDACTED]

ARMANDO PENHA  
(Former [REDACTED])

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau's information is an article captioned "PENHA Barely Escaped Arrest As A Red," which appeared in the "New Bedford Standard - Times" for 4/4/58, pages 1 and 4.

This article is the second in a series of interviews with PENHA by ROBERT FINN, "Standard - Times" Staff Writer.

In this article, PENHA relates some of his activities in the New Bedford area while functioning as an informant for the FBI.

This article is in addition to those submitted by Boston on a daily basis.

Boston will continue to forward to the Bureau these articles concerning PENHA's activities as they appear in the "New Bedford Standard - Times."

LAUGELIN

3- Bureau (100-372696) (Encl.) (RM)  
1- Boston [REDACTED]

HP:bat  
(4)

REC- 50  
EX-117

100-372696-105

APR 18 1958

ENCLOSURE  
50

AIR TEL

EX-117

INT. SEC.  
MR.

Approved: 26 APR 17 1958  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

# Penha Barely Escaped Arrest as a Red

(An exclusive series of interviews with Armando Penha, Fairhaven counter-spy for the FBI in the Communist Party for eight years, has been obtained by The Standard-Times. For the first time, Mr. Penha—and his wife—tell in detail their experiences during those harrowing years, climaxed by his dramatic disclosures before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in Boston two weeks ago. The series reveals the ominous extent of the Communist conspiracy in this immediate area.)

By ROBERT FINN  
Standard-Times Staff Writer

Three times the police cruiser circled the block in New Bedford's South End, traveling very fast. In it were two uniformed policemen looking for suspicious-acting persons who might be Communists. Armando Penha watched them go by, then quickly drove off in his own car. Stacked in it were 2,500 Communist Party leaflets, plainly marked, and a supply of other literature.

"By the grace of God I was able to get out of the area without being arrested," he says now, looking back to that night in 1951. Arrest, of course, would have meant public disclosure that he was a Communist.

That was the night Armando Penha says he will never forget. It was the night he was directing the party's counter-attack to the news that the Massachusetts Legislature was planning to outlaw the party in this State.

For several days the party had been aware that this move was planned, but no action had been taken. The Communists thought public complacency would be on their side and the bill would be defeated. But it wasn't, and the party, with

Armando Penha in a key role, swung into action.

"We had planned for that night a mass distribution of 10,000 leaflets throughout Massachusetts protesting against this bill. As pre-arranged, I met in New Bedford with a group of about 20 comrades from various areas.

"Some were afraid, in the light of the Legislature's action, but my attitude as a leader was that we could make good use of the Marxist tactic of surprise," he said.

The authorities would never dream, Mr. Penha told his Communist audience, that the party could take such far-reaching action on the very night after the decision was announced. The 10,000 leaflets must be distributed quickly, with precision, like clockwork, he told party members.

They were. Mr. Penha himself undertook the direction of the leaflet distribution in the industrial areas of the city, particularly in the South End.

He took trusted party members in his car and placed them, in darkness, at key industrial plants so that they could distribute the leaflets in places where they would be easily found.

When the job was done, everyone was to meet again at a designated spot. He drove to the South End with his cargo of leaflets, and parked near Bolton and Dunbar Streets.

Then, without warning, the police cruisers came. After several anxious moments, Mr. Penha was able to leave the area undetected. Later, he found out what had gone wrong.

One overeager comrade had tucked a leaflet under the windshield wiper of a car parked in front of a home in the area. A few minutes later the car's owner came out and noticed the leaflet.

One look was enough. He read "Communist Party of New England," ran into his home and called police. Coming out again, he stopped a friend, told him what he had found and invited him to join him in a trip around

(Continued on Page 4)

New Bedford STANDARD-TIMES

Boston Traveler  
Boston Herald  
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Christian Science Monitor

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Author or

Editor:

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Class. or

Character:

Page: 1

100-373696-105

ENCLOSURE

# Penha Barely Missed Arrest As a Communist Agent Here

(Continued from Page 1)

the neighborhood to see if they could spot any of the Communists.

## 'Friend' Is Party Member

What the distraught citizen did not know, Mr. Penha says, is that his friend whom he invited to help in the search for Communists was himself a secret party member who had until a few minutes before been distributing the party leaflets.

Neither they, nor the police, found any Communists.

On another occasion in Winston-Salem, N. C., where Mr. Penha had been sent by the party to help establish Communist groups in the Southern textile industry, ignorance of city parking rules nearly brought about his arrest.

## Has Literature in Auto

The car he was using was stacked with party literature, and he unknowingly left it parked in a tow-away zone. He returned to the scene just in time to see Winston-Salem police attaching a tow line to the car. He noticed this just in time to avoid being picked up himself as the operator of the vehicle.

His Southern trips opened his eyes to the Communist concept of "equality," Mr. Penha says. Though the Communists preached equality and the classless society, their treatment of him—a visiting "big shot" from up North—betrayed them. Some would obsequiously open doors for him, others would volunteer to carry his briefcase.

## Gifts Were Expensive

His neighbors in Fairhaven dismissed these long out-of-town trips as business trips by their hard-working neighbor.

The brown leather briefcase so willingly lugged for him by party underlings in the South was actually a "Christmas gift" to him from the party hierarchy. Each year his superiors saw that he received some present at Christmas-time, and none were cheap. The brown leather briefcase is smart and expensive-looking, and a gray sweater, which the party gave him one year, will warm the FBI counter-spy for many Winters.

Many of the accused Communists sitting in the Boston courtroom presumably recognized the brown briefcase when Mr. Penha stepped to the witness stand carrying it, and began his damaging testimony. At party meetings, they had seen streams of party directives, Communist books and study outlines come out of the case.

## Reds Observe Christmas

The Communist "observance" of Christmas was a strange affair, Mr. Penha recalls. Party members send out "peace cards" with doves of peace and messages stressing the word "peace" on them. These messages might even be religious in tone, but only insofar as peace is mentioned. There was never any mention of God or the birth of Christ.

These cards are obtained through Communist front organizations. Those that are sent to party sympathizers or dupes are left unsigned.

The gifts sent to party leaders are intended as testimonials to their unflinching work for the party. The most incongruous "Christmas present" Mr. Penha received was a copy of William Z. Foster's book "History of the Communist Party in America."

## Studies Law

In addition to his regular jobs, his Communist Party work, and his regular reports to the FBI, Mr. Penha voluntarily took on a fourth time-consuming task: Studying for a law degree by correspondence from the Blackstone School in Chicago. His objective was not to practice law, but to learn Constitutional law so he could apply it from the party's point of view.

This project, by actual count, took him 3,300 working hours of preparation and involved several trips to Chicago. The framed degree, dated 1957, now hangs in the Penha living room. Mr. Penha would not be eligible to take the Massachusetts Bar Examination, however. The State does not recognize law degrees from correspondence schools.

The party welcomed this evidence of extra zeal on Mr. Penha's part.

## Proved His Desire

"They said it proved I was a good Communist," he explains. "As a leader, I was not only expected to be continually studying myself, but also to give guidance to others. In the party, if you don't do your job right, you won't be in it for long."

"There is no such thing as getting a job and keeping it, if you are not doing it well. You are just dumped. There is nothing democratic about it," he said.

The Communist concept of "democratic centralism" was his guide at all times in conducting party meetings. In lay terms, this means that decisions handed down from the national committee are final and cannot be altered. A certain amount of "constructive criticism" is permitted, but only up to a point, and the national pronouncement always must prevail.

"The party can replace members like the parts of a machine," Mr. Penha comments, "but the party itself is never wrong, and it is the role of the leader to see

## New Bedford STANDARD-TIMES

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to it that the rank and file accept what basically you started out with.

#### Approach Discussed

"My first approach was to convince them that they were wrong, that they must be, because the party could never be," he said.

Once the wrongs were admitted, then came the long, dreary "self-criticism" sessions, familiar to those who have written or read about life in Communist political prisons.

"We have had these sessions right in my own home, where the comrades would confess their errors. The party notes all these things and keeps them for use later on.

#### Comrades Kept Busy

"We gave the rank and file so much work to do, so much to read, study and digest, that they had no time to ever read the other daily newspapers. This is part of the method of brainwashing party members to make them good comrades," he commented.

The party considered the Penha home, on a side street in North Fairhaven, an ideal spot to hold meetings. He estimates that between 40 and 50 party meetings were held there, in strict secrecy, during his eight years in the party.

Communist directives were transmitted to Mr. Penha by means of trusted party couriers. The party also practiced deception in using the mails, however. This was brought out at the Boston hearings when Mr. Penha told of receiving a party message tucked inside a birthday card addressed to his small daughter, Susan, whose actual birthday was months distant.

#### Superiors Write

The directives came from Mr. Penha's superiors in the New England District Committee of the Communist Party, or from the national committee in New York City.

Many Communist Party directives were handed down to the New England district in the comfortable Penha living room. As few as two men or as many as 11 would congregate there at any hour, often late at night.

Sometimes the comrades would stay overnight and take sleeping accommodations in the small apartment. Many sessions lasted eight or nine hours at one sitting.

#### Children Would Sleep

The four Penha children would be asleep, thinking perhaps that their father was conducting some sort of an "insurance meeting" in the parlor. Many times Mrs. Penha would sit behind a closed door in the dark, taking notes on names, dates and places, to help her husband in his work with the FBI.

The doors in the apartment would be closed, the radio or TV set would be turned on to drown out what was said. Talk was in low tones. Often, communication was by written notes passed from hand to hand.

Neighbors, noting only that the lights were on, would reflect that neighbor Penha was working late again.

#### Suspicion Avoided

There would be no congregation of cars parked on the street outside. All the comrades were smart enough to park some distance away so as not to create suspicion.

The Penha home was also used for Communist-front meetings. On one occasion, Mr. Penha recalls that a meeting of top Communist Party leadership was in progress in the parlor, while at the same time in the adjoining dining room a meeting of a Communist-front group was in session.

The dupes and sympathizers at the front-group meeting were utterly unaware that the men in the next room were Communist Party members. All that separated the two rooms was one closed door.

**TOMORROW: Armando Penha gives the answer of a dedicated Communist to a crucial question: Do Communists really advocate and work toward the violent overthrow of the U. S. Government?**

#### New Bedford STANDARD-TIMES

Boston Traveler  
Boston Herald  
Boston Globe  
Boston American  
Boston Record  
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Page: 4

F B I

Date: 4/9/58

Transmit the following in PLAIN TEXT  
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

b7E

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-372696)

FROM: SAC, BOSTON ARMANDO PENHA  
(Former )

Enclosed herewith is an article captioned "Reds Tried to Make PENHA Run Against F. EBT FROM," which appeared in the "New Bedford Standard - Times" on 4/3/58.

The article written by ROBERT FINN, "Standard - Times" Staff Writer, is one in a series of articles written about PENHA's experience in the Communist Party.

This article is in addition to those which are submitted daily to the Bureau by the Boston Office.

Boston will continue to forward these articles to the Bureau as they appear in the "New Bedford Standard - Times".

3- Bureau (100-372696) (RM) (Encl.)  
1- Boston

FFB:bat  
(4)

REC- 50

APR 15 1958

EX-117

AIR TEL

ENCLOSURE

Approved: 62 APR 16 1958  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

# Reds Tried to Make Penha Run Against F. Eben Brown

(An exclusive series of interviews with Armando Penha, Fairhaven counter-spy for the FBI in the Communist Party for eight years, has been obtained by The Standard-Times. For the first time, Mr. Penha—and his wife—tell in detail their experiences during those harrowing years, climaxed by his dramatic disclosures before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in Boston two weeks ago. The series reveals the ominous extent of the Communist conspiracy in this immediate area.)

By ROBERT FINN

Standard-Times Staff Writer

The Communist Party once directed Armando Penha, Fairhaven man who worked in the party for eight years at the request of the FBI, to run against former Representative F. Eben Brown (R-Fairhaven) for a seat in the Massachusetts Legislature. The plan fell through when Mr. Penha pleaded that his poor health would not permit him to make the race.

"The party wanted to organize a strong base for me to run for high office in the town, and for State office. They said their dupes and sympathizers would work hard for me in the campaign. Their view was that the party would gain whether I won or lost, simply by the opportunity to bring the Communist line to the people in the campaign."

## Path Began in Europe

The path that led Armando Penha to the witness chair in Boston Federal Court two weeks ago actually began in Europe, during his Army service in the early 1940s.

In England, North Africa, Italy and Sicily Mr. Penha's work with the military intelligence branch brought him into contact with European Communism at first-hand. He dealt with cases of espionage and sabotage—and he thought a lot about the Communist menace as he met it for the first time, face to face.

The experience sank in, but it was not until 1949 that his memory was stirred again. He read an article in the Saturday Evening Post by Angela Calomiris, one of the earliest FBI counter-spies in the Communist ranks to expose herself and testify.

That was the opening spark, he told The Standard-Times in an exclusive interview. Then came the startling revelations of the career of Herbert Philbrick, a native of Melrose and an active Communist for the FBI in the Boston area.

## Resolution Began to Form

As he thought back over his own experiences and read Philbrick's account in "I Led Three Lives," the resolution slowly began to form in Mr. Penha's own mind that there must be something he could do—himself, personally—to aid the fight against Communism in America.

"At the same time I was apprehensive because I knew the Communists in Massachusetts would

be on the alert after Philbrick was exposed," he remembers.

Then came news of a third FBI agent, Matthew Cvetich of Pittsburgh, who had once been an insurance agent, just as Mr. Penha himself had been.

But there was a still stronger prompting: In his own words, he felt "a call, just as a person, regardless of what his religion is, has an inner feeling or call to become a minister, a priest, or a rabbi."

## Had General Understanding

He admits he had "no idea whatsoever" of the extent of Communist activity in this area before he joined the party at the request of the FBI, but says he probably had a better understanding of Communism in general, due to his military service.

Late in 1949 or very early in 1950

(Continued on Page 4)

Boston Traveler  
Boston Herald  
Boston Globe  
Boston American  
Boston Record  
Christian Science Monitor  
The Standard-Times, New Bedford

Date: 4-3-58  
Edition: LATEST  
Author or ROBERT FINN  
Editor:  
Title: ARMANDO PENHA

BF 100 - 372 696

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Character:  
Page: 1 & 4

100-272696-106

ENCLOSURE

(Continued from Page 1)

1950—his memory is not clear which—Armando Penha made his first approach to the FBI. He was merely given papers to fill out and sign, and told to come back later.

"They were very cool," he remembers. "The reason I learned later, was that they were checking me from the day I was born, to make sure that I was not a dedicated party member sent to infiltrate the FBI itself."

This security check took 2½ months. On his fifth interview Mr. Penha was finally told to go ahead.

#### Would Be on Own

His position in the party, the FBI told him, would be that of an Intelligence agent in enemy territory. He would be strictly on his own and would have to take complete care of himself.

If he was ever arrested, the bureau could not come to his aid. He was alone.

He made his approach to the Communist Party through Joseph Figueiredo, then master of ceremonies for a weekly radio program over a Fall River radio station.

At the end of each program Figueiredo would appeal for letters from his listeners. Armando Penha responded to this appeal with a letter saying he had lived for eight years in "Fascist Portugal," and was himself "on the side of anti-Fascism."

#### Figueiredo Came

He received no answer to his letter. Instead, 10 days later Figueiredo and another man came in person to his house. They stayed for 2½ hours while Mr. Penha and Figueiredo talked. During the entire interview, the third man in the room did not say one word, Mr. Penha remembers.

"He sat in a chair in my living room, pulled his hat down over his eyes, leaned back and pretended to be asleep. I learned later that he was watching every move I made, every reaction to every question, and scrutinizing my home carefully, for that entire 2½ hours."

As he drew closer to the party, Mr. Penha "played hard to get" to see what the comrades' reaction would be. They did not rush him.

In March of 1950 he formally joined the party. He was soon to learn the iron force with which the party binds each of its members to do its will regardless of personal obligations.

#### Learned of Infiltration

He found the truth of the Communist doctrine that every Com-

munist must strive to make his home his office, or his club a party stronghold. He read William Z. Foster's comment that "every shop is a fortress for Communism."

He learned the importance of infiltration into legitimate groups in the community, with the aim of subverting them for Communism. He learned the Communist technique of "mass action" by working tirelessly to gain the support of innocent dupes or deluded sympathizers for party causes: Save the Rosenbergs, end the Korean War, defeat the McCarran-Walter Act, and dozens more.

But his own disbelief in Communism remained unshaken. He would mail out the party literature in envelopes with no return address, and with no indication that it had come from a Communist source.

"If anyone signed those petitions, they never knew they had come from the party. I never followed them up personally," he says.

From the very beginning he made reports back to the FBI, but his dealing with the House Committee on Un-American Activities did not begin until January 1958.

#### Congratulated by Party

His first election as a Fairhaven town meeting member came, he thinks, in 1952. "I did this strictly on my own, and never took any part in a town meeting that was the party's line," he remembers, "but I was congratulated after my election at a Communist meeting. The party wanted me to go on."

As he rose gradually in the party ranks to the position of section organizer for New Bedford—the top Communist Party post in this area—there were many calls for Armando Penha, including "three or four" occasions when the party nearly found out about his connections with the FBI.

In these chilling circumstances his position as a party leader was his only salvation. With ruthless tactics typical of a Communist he was able in each instance to shift the blame for leaks of information to the Government on another party member, and actually to procure the innocent man's expulsion from the party.

On one occasion when there had been a leak, Mr. Penha was conducting a meeting of a small group of hard core Communists in his living room. Knowing that his whole party position and even his life was in danger, he made a supreme effort to impress upon

the little group that the man guilty of the leak had to be one of them.

#### Wife Was in Room

"My wife was in the room as I spoke, and she was actually turning red. If any one of them had happened to look at her then, it would have been the end for me," he recalls.

Mr. Penha forcefully centered his attack on one particular Communist—a man who was his rival for power within the party. "He and one of his strong allies, who was also in the room, had been working to overthrow me as leader."

"I actually brought so much pressure to bear on that man that he destroyed himself by confessing falsely that he was himself the link between the party and the Government. That happened right in my living room in 1951."

Such is the power of Communist brainwashing.

(Next: Penha tells of narrow escapes from arrest while carrying out Communist orders.)





—Standard-Times Staff Photo

**WHERE HE WORKED**—Armando Penha sits with his typewriter at the small table in his parlor where he often worked late into the night preparing material for use at Communist Party meetings and discussion classes. The briefcase was a "Christmas gift" to him from higher officials in the party. William Z. Foster's book, "Toward a Soviet America," is displayed on table.

## Bishop to Attend Penha Testimonial

Archbishop Richard J. Cushing of Boston and Bishop James L. Connolly of Fall River head the list of invited guests for the testimonial breakfast in honor of Fairhaven counter-spy Armando Penha. The breakfast will be held after the 8 a. m. Mass on Sunday April 13 at St. Mary Church, North Fairhaven.

The list of invited dignitaries includes clergy, city officials, prominent figures in State politics, judges, officials of the Knights of Columbus and others prominent in the civic life of Greater New Bedford.

In addition, two members of the staff of the House Committee on Un-American Activities have been invited to come from Washington for the affair. Master of ceremonies is to be Joseph P. DuChaine of New Bedford.

## Amvets Post Pays Tribute to Penha

Courage and patriotism of Armando Penha of Fairhaven, counter-spy for the FBI and star witness before the House Committee on Un-American Activities, are cited by New Bedford Post 62, Amvets, in the unit's current newsletter.

Mr. Penha, a member of Post 62, merits the "thanks and appreciation for what he has gone through for the good of the country," the monthly letter reads.

"The efforts of Amvet Penha, in his courageous fight against Communism at the risk of himself and all those he loved, cannot be too highly praised or appreciated," it said. "We only hope that his efforts will not have been in vain, that followup action by legislators, civilians and members of all organizations, who should draw a lesson from the revealing testimony brought out by the hearings, will go a long way in eliminating this menace."

F B I

Date: 4/15/58

Transmit the following in PLAIN TEXT  
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-372696)

FROM : SAC, BOSTON [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: ARMANDO PENHA  
Former [REDACTED]

In discussion of captioned individual at meeting of District Committee, CP, USA, New England District, held 4/13/58, ANNE BURLAK TIMPSON stated that she had heard that OLGA GARCZYNSKI might sue PENHA. This matter was not further elaborated upon by TIMPSON. It was also stated by PHILIP KORITZ that it was his understanding PENHA had once threatened to kill OLGA. KORITZ did not further explain his remark.

It was unanimously voted at this meeting that a leaflet on PENHA be gotten out immediately for distribution in the New Bedford, Mass. area.

Boston will immediately advise Bureau in the event of development of any additional information concerning the above, which was orally furnished by [REDACTED] on 4/14/58. BS will contact PENHA re KORITZ' statement above.

LAUGHLIN.

③ - Bureau (100-372696) (RM)

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24 APR 16 1958

INT. SEC.  
R. J. [REDACTED]

Approved: [REDACTED]

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge

53 APR 22 1958

# For 8 Years Mrs. Penha Was on Guard Constantly

(An exclusive series of interviews with Armando Penha, Fairhaven counter-spy for the FBI in the Communist Party for eight years, has been obtained by The Standard-Times. For the first time, Mr. Penha—and his wife—tell in detail their experiences during those harrowing years, climaxed by his dramatic disclosures before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in Boston, two weeks ago. The series reveals the ominous extent of the Communist conspiracy in this immediate area.)

By GLORIA L. NEGRI  
Standard-Times Staff Writer

"Even a fish wouldn't get caught if he kept his mouth shut." It was just an inscription on a knickknack her husband gave her on a wedding anniversary, but it was a way of living for Mrs. Cecilia Penha for eight years. Any other way of life would have posed danger for FBI counter-spy Armando Penha, his wife and their four children.

As the wife of a key party figure, Mrs. Penha was subjected to numerous brainwashing sessions and was assigned to carry out certain party chores. But because her husband was responsible for her indoctrination—to the extent of placing her in Communist-front organizations—he found ways to cover up for the party tasks she did not perform.

## Ruse Revealed

For instance, when Mrs. Penha was employed at a local plant, the Communists told her to place stickers reading, "Bring our boys back from Korea," on the machinery.

In Mr. Penha's position, he knew the schedule of the Communists working at the plant and the time they would be walking through the section where Mrs. Penha was to have placed the stickers.

"If the Communists walked through at 2 to check," Mrs. Penha said, "Ed (as she calls her husband) would tell them later I had put the stickers on at 2:30. If they had walked through after 2:30 and did not see the stickers, there was the possibility that management had taken them off."

Mrs. Penha also was made to read party newspapers and pamphlets and when the Communists came to the house they'd discuss them with her, "to see how much I had absorbed. They're very smooth talkers," Mrs. Penha warned. "They have a way of working around people to make them dissatisfied with their working conditions and feel sorry for themselves."

for her husband on whatever she could hear through the thick wall.

"Sometimes, some of the Communists would pass through the kitchen and I would peek through the door and see them taking mental notes of the house."

There was a heavy mimeograph machine, used to put out party literature, which had to be concealed when certain persons arrived unexpectedly. "I played tag with that thing for years," said petite, 115-pound Cecilia Penha.

## Master at Sleuthing

She became a master in the art of sleuthing. "Times when Ed was on the phone (then in the kitchen), I'd have my eye at the keyhole of the back door to see if any of them were sneaking up the stairs."

"When the Penhas found that's what the Communists had been doing, they moved the phone into the living room. 'Naturally, they asked me why we had done that. I told them because it bothered the children,' Mrs. Penha said.

Today, Cecilia Penha strains her ears at the slightest sound. "I can even tell whether it's the baker's footsteps or the milkman's!"

One thing she wants to break herself of is being on guard all the time. "I'm so used to talking to the wrong people that I've got to learn to talk to the good people again."

How did this terribly unreal way of living affect her and the family?—"Frankly, it made me a nervous wreck," Mrs. Penha said. "It wasn't a matter of needing a doctor all the time, but worry and neglecting to eat meals unless Ed was home made me anemic."

the Penha children was of joy. Two-year-old Susan is still going around the house chanting, "My father's in the FBO!"

Five-year-old Roberta wondered why her father didn't bring presents back after this "trip," as he has on others. "What's the matter, Daddy," she asked, "didn't you make any money this trip?"

## Ed Writes Letter

Mrs. Penha's cherished gift is the letter her husband wrote to her during the hearings.

It reads: "These eight years have taken so much life out of me. I have not been the husband I wish I could have been. However, no one knows better than you that you have been my inspiration and my guiding light."

"What you have endured all these years makes me ashamed to say I feel so tired. What would I have done if I did not have you? Whatever glories may come in the future are wrongly given to me. It is you that merits anything and everything."

"My consolation is that Almighty God will most certainly give you the greatest gift anyone could possibly get—outside of being beatified—a place next to Him."

"When I used to call you 'Princess,' little did I realize that you do have royal and holy qualities. By the time you read this, no doubt you will know the results. I know my patron, Our Lady of Fatima, will not fail me, for she has commissioned me to this task."

## NEW BEDFORD STANDARD-TIMES

Boston Traveler  
Boston Herald  
Boston Globe  
Boston American  
Boston Record  
Christian Science Monitor

Date: 4-8-58

Edition:

Author or GLORIA NEGRI

Editor:

Title:

Class. or

Character:

Page: 14

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APR 12 1958

FBI - BOSTON

100-372696-108

### Unwelcome Guests

Her other chores weren't as simple. "You could never tell when they (the Communists) would arrive," dark-eyed Mrs. Penha recalled. "If Ed was to go with them to a party meeting the next day, a group of them would arrive the night before. It was just a matter of, 'Well, here we are, you take care of us.'"

Many times when they arrived, Mr. Penha was away from home on FBI work and his wife would have to move their children out of their beds so the "comrades" could have a good night's sleep. Several times she and her husband were told to give up their bed to them.

Often these overnight stays protracted through the next day, and meals would have to be cooked for the unexpected visitors. Sometimes, there wasn't enough food to go around for the children and the "guests," and Cecilia Penha went without a meal.

"They never missed a chance to criticize," she said. "They often suggested I buy different cuts of meats that were cheaper. They brought up a powder and told us to put it into the orange juice for vitamins we lacked in food."

"They brought us pills for every part of the body—the eyes, the nose and what not. We tossed them out. I was a little run down at one time and they insisted I go to a doctor—their doctor. I didn't."

### 'Aunt Jemima' Barred

"I got the holy devil once because they saw a package of Aunt Jemima pancake flour on the pantry shelf. They said it was discrimination and making fun of colored people. They also made me take down an Aunt Jemima doll notepad I had on the wall."

The ironic part of this was that one of her husband's duties as a Communist leader was to propagandize throughout the State against "white chauvinism." That this violation against Communist ideology was found in his own home was unthinkable.

"They'd always call Ed down for things I did that they didn't approve of," Mrs. Penha said. "They even became angry when they heard I was expecting another baby. They were afraid he couldn't fully perform his duties with an extra child to worry about."

Four years ago when Mr. Penha was in the hospital four weeks, Mrs. Penha "had the Commies all alone. It was terrible," she recalled.

Many times, she was infuriated by their disregard for his health. "They had the nerve to say he was faking his illness. I used to reprimand them for keeping him talking in parked cars all hours of the night and morning."

### Waiting Is Tough

"It's tough waiting for a husband to come home and not knowing what time it will be," she added. "I paced the floor many nights—waiting, never knowing when he was coming home because his work with them was always secret."

One of the things that helped her endure this nerve-wracking ordeal was knitting.

"I knitted like a fiend. It helped keep me from going crazy," she said.

Cecilia Penha did not only serve by sitting and waiting. There were nights when her husband was at a party meeting in their parlor and she was in an unlighted bedroom where the children were sleeping, taking notes.

### Children Affected

Although the children knew nothing of their father's work, they were affected indirectly by their mother's constant emotional strain. "Sometimes," she recalled, "I'd be on the phone, a Commie would be knocking at the door and the baby screaming. You can imagine what happened. I used to be filled with remorse after scolding the children."

Just as the children often couldn't understand their mother's aggravation, so they couldn't comprehend why, when Mrs. Penha's late father was hospitalized two years ago, they had to whisper the Rosary for him in their room.

"Why do we have to whisper, Mommie," little Roberta had asked. "God won't hear us."

But the Communists in the next room would have.

Armando Penha speaks sincerely when he says he "could never have done this thing" without his wife's help. He feels just as a friend spoke of Mrs. Penha the other day: "Your wife deserves an Oscar for the best supporting actress role," the man said.

She says the same thing of him. "If Ed hadn't been kind to me and helped me with the children, I would never have made it. At night when the children needed attention, he'd get up so I could rest."

"Ed never complained if meals weren't ready on time. He helps with the shopping and he's not ashamed of being seen hanging out clothes."

"Ed's an ideal father. He's always been ready to help Joan with her homework or Larry with a problem. He never raises his voice. It was he who made excuses for any strange goings-on here and who explained to Joan and Larry about the hearings."

Although the family had been prepared for it, that week of the Boston hearings upset them all. "The tension was terrific," Mrs. Penha said. "I wanted Ed to do a good job, but was worried about his health. The children were off their routine staying up late to watch their father on television and that irritated them."

### NEW BEDFORD STANDARD TIMES

Boston Traveler  
Boston Herald  
Boston Globe  
Boston American  
Boston Record  
Christian Science Monitor

Date: 4-8-58

Edition:

Author or

Editor:

Title:

Class. or

Character:

Page: 14 (CONT)

100-372696-108

F B I

Date: 4/15/58

Transmit the following in PLAIN TEXT  
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-372696)

FROM: SAC, BOSTON [REDACTED]

ARMED MEN  
(Former [REDACTED])

Enclosed herewith is an article captioned "For 6 Years Mrs. MENA Was on Guard Constantly." This article appeared in the "New Bedford Standard - Times" for 4/1/58.

Enclosed article is one in a series of articles being written about MENA'S experiences while acting as an informant for the FBI.

This article is in addition to those submitted to the Bureau on a daily basis.

LAUGHLIN

(2) Bureau (100-372696) (Encl.) (R )  
1- Boston [REDACTED]

FEB:bat  
(4)ENCLOSURE  
EX - 126

AIR TEL

REC- 10

EX - 126

100-372696-10  
24 APR 16 19583065/25  
66 APR 22 1958Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-372696)

DATE: April 17, 1958

FROM : SAC, BOSTON 

b7E

SUBJECT: ARMANDO PENHA  
(Former Bureau Informant)ReBulet April 4, 1958 authorizing this office to 

Referral/Consult

A copy of a memorandum captioned "ARMANDO PENHA" and dated Oct. 22, 1957 which was submitted as an attachment to Boston letter dated Oct. 22, 1957 captioned "COMPROS - BOSTON; IS - C", which sets forth all known derogatory information concerning PENHA, was furnished  on April 16, 1958.

Referral/Consult

RHB:RW  
(3)  
REG. MAIL

REC-36

EX. - 126

100-372696-109

15 APR 21 1958

66 APR 23 1958 <sup>306</sup>

INVEST. SEC.

F B I

b6  
b7C  
b7E

Date: 4/16/58

Transmit the following in PLAIN TEXT  
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-372696)

FROM: SAC, BOSTON [REDACTED]

ALVARDO PENHA  
(Former Bureau Informant)

Rebuairtel to Boston dated 3/31/58 and Bulet to Boston dated 4/4/58.

PENHA was advised by SA [REDACTED] on 4/11/58, that he must be truthful and factual in any book or publication he elects to write and that the Bureau will not sponsor or endorse such articles.

PENHA was also advised, on this date, that [REDACTED]

Referral/Consult

[REDACTED] PENHA said he would notify Agent [REDACTED] if and when [REDACTED]

Having been given a position by Mayor FRANCIS TAYLOR of New Bedford, Mass. in recognition for his work as an informant and as a witness before the HCUA at Boston, PENHA began his duties on Monday, 4/7/58, as an Investigator of Medical Costs pertaining to veterans in the City of New Bedford. He works out of the Office of Veterans' Services at the City Hall, New Bedford. This is a temporary position, which may last three to six months, and the pay is \$65.00 per week.

On 4/9/58, PENHA received a telephone call from CHARLES LEVIN, the General Manager of the New Bedford Standard - Times, the daily newspaper published in New Bedford. LEVIN said he had received a telephone call from GEORGE FINCOLD, the Attorney General of Massachusetts at Boston, requesting LEVIN to contact PENHA and to ask PENHA to come to Boston to see him. FINCOLD is an announced candidate for the Republican nomination for Governor of

3- Bureau (100-372696) (R)  
1- Boston [REDACTED]

JED:bat  
(4)

AIR TEL

REC- 35

12 APR 17 1958

Approved: [Signature] Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M

Per [Signature]

53 APR 23 1958



[REDACTED]

Massachusetts in the election this fall. The Standard - Times newspaper has always supported FINGOLD in previous campaigns for Attorney General and will undoubtedly support him for Governor.

PENNA went to Boston on 4/10/58 to see FINGOLD, but the latter was not at his office and PENNA conferred with one (FNU) SALISBURY, Assistant Attorney General of Massachusetts.

SALISBURY asked PENNA general questions concerning the structure of the Communist Party on the state and local level. SALISBURY indicated that the State desired to re-write its Sedition Laws and the Attorney General hoped by having an understanding of the workings of the Communist Party he would be in a better position to recommend new legislation to the State legislature.

SALISBURY then asked PENNA if he would be interested in working as an Investigator for the Massachusetts Subversive Activities Board and to this PENNA said he could not decide now, but would have to know more about such a position.

SALISBURY asked PENNA if he would have any objections to appearing as a witness before the Massachusetts Commission to Fight Communism, headed by Senator BOWEN. PENNA said he had no objections to appearing and that he would be available as a witness before any Commission which was sincerely interested in fighting Communism, but that he would not be a volunteer witness before any Commission, which he felt was seeking publicity for political reasons.

SALISBURY stated he would like to confer with PENNA again, and that Attorney General FINGOLD wanted to interview him. PENNA requested SALISBURY that if the State of Massachusetts contemplated any sort of public hearing in which they wanted to use PENNA, the Attorney General should contact both the Bureau and the HCUA, and to this SALISBURY agreed.

PENNA, at the request of GEORGE WILLIAMS, HCUA Investigator, was to leave New Bedford, Mass. on Sunday, April 13, 1958 to go to Washington, D. C. to confer with WILLIAMS on 4/14/58. WILLIAMS did not tell PENNA why he wanted to talk with him or how long PENNA would remain there.

Because of his long association with the Communist Party in Massachusetts and the fact that he met so many CP leaders in the six years he was active as a party member, it will be necessary to continue to contact him for some time. However, PENNA will be given close supervision and control and the information furnished by him will be fully evaluated before payments are made to him.

LAUGHLIN

March 21 1958

Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

William F. Tompkins, Assistant Attorney General,  
Internal Security Division

UNITED STATES v. RUSSO

The New York Times of March 21, 1958 in its coverage of the hearings of the House Committee on Un-American Activities in Boston states that one Armando Penha, a former confidential informant of the Bureau, gave testimony on March 20. According to the article, Penha testified that he was shown the plans of a plot to plant a bomb near the platform of a New Bedford, Massachusetts school auditorium where Louis Budenz, a witness for the Government in numerous proceedings against the Communist Party and its members, was to speak several weeks ago, and that Penha talked them out of it.

It is requested that the Bureau make arrangements for Penha to be interviewed as soon as possible by [redacted] of this Division in connection with the captioned case and other pending Smith Act cases, as well as possible violations of other federal statutes. It is also requested that any informant reports submitted by Mr. Penha which [redacted] may desire to examine be made available to him. [redacted] will be in Boston on Monday, March 24, and will contact the Bureau Field Office in that city.

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NOT RECORDED  
145 APR 11 1958

INITIALS OF ORIGINAL

62 APR 10 1958  
25

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR

DATE: 3/28/58

FROM : Clyde Tolson

**SUBJECT:**

Bill Buckley of Henry Holt and Company called this morning. He has been contacted by an Agent, Sterling Lord, who advised that Al Hirschberg, a writer who wrote the Jimmy Piersall Baseball Story, wants to collaborate with Armando Penha in writing a book concerning communist activities. Penha was an informant of the Bureau for several years and recently was exposed when he testified before the HCUA in New England. Buckley wanted to know whether Penha was a responsible individual and whether it might be possible to give him some advice as to what he should do concerning such a book. Buckley stated that he had been told that Penha had a clearance from the FBI to tell his story.

I told Buckley that Penha did not have any clearance from the FBI and that we would furnish no such clearance. I told him Penha was a good informant but that he ought to take into consideration the possibility of libel and over-exaggeration and sensationalism in a situation of this kind. I told him that the Bureau would not in any way underwrite or approve anything that Penha wrote and that we would not check any such material for any publisher. Buckley stated that he planned to turn the offer down, that Henry Holt and Company is publishing "Masters of Deceit" and further from what he knows of the situation Penha could only discuss matters existing in one section of the country.

I think we have made a mistake in the past in reviewing material prepared by former informants. I recognize that we have done this for the purpose of protecting the Bureau's interests and in the interest of accuracy. On the other hand, I think that sooner or later we are going to get in trouble when errors and mistakes occur in such publications on the basis that the material has been furnished to, and has been in effect approved by the Bureau. I think we could more profitably spend our time and energy in seeing to it that Bureau publications, files, etc., are accurate than in spinning our wheels reviewing material written by some former informant. If they over-exaggerate and subject themselves to libel it certainly is not up to the Bureau to interest itself in such activities upon their part.

60 APR 25 1958  
CT:LCB  
(3) 2274

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Tolson ✓  
Boardman ✓  
Belmont ✓  
Mohr ✓  
Nease ✓  
Parsons ✓  
Rosen ✓  
Tamm ✓  
Trotter ✓  
Clayton ✓  
Tele. Room ✓  
Holloman ✓  
Gandy ✓

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 66-25403-1104

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Nease *HP*

DATE: April 16, 1958

FROM : M. A. Jones *HP*

SUBJECT: "THIS IS YOUR LIFE"  
 PORTRAYAL OF ARMANDO PENHA  
 CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT--COMMUNIST MATTERS  
 BOSTON OFFICE

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Clayton \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

We received a letter dated April 11, 1958, from Axel Gruenberg, producer of the show "This Is Your Life" stating that they are interested in Penha's life. Penha recently testified before the House Un-American Activities Committee in Boston.

Gruenberg felt that doing his life would further emphasize to the Nation the real and ever present dangers of communism. He states, "We could not however--and would not if we could--proceed any further without your acquiescence and the cooperation of the Bureau both in Washington and in Boston."

Gruenberg also noted that on March 28, 1956, with the approval of the Bureau a similar story was done on confidential informant Marian Miller.

BACKGROUND ON ARMANDO PENHA:

Penha has been a most valuable informant of the Boston Office and has furnished substantial information since he initially became an informant back in 1950. He worked his way into the confidence of the party and was most valuable. He appeared before the House Un-American Activities hearings in Boston during the week of March 17, 1958.

He has been described up to this date as a stable informant and Mayor Francis Lawlor of New Bedford appointed Penha as an investigator for the City of New Bedford at the salary of \$65 per week. This was April 1, 1958.

It was further noted that Sterling Lord, New York City, had offered to write a book for Penha to be published by Julian Mess Co., New York City, and there also has been some indication that Lippincott Publishing Company was interested in doing a book on Penha. The only problem which Penha has had evolved from the fact that while he was a confidential informant of the Bureau and being compensated for it he drew unemployment compensation from the State of Massachusetts. He had to do this to avoid revealing his identity in that he was unemployed and members of the Party would have become suspicious. Boston

Enclosure *sent 4-18-58*62 APR 28 1958 *369*ECK:grs *QPV*

(2)

23 APR 22 1958

CRIMINAL

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4-23-58*

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Mr. Nease

advised that since his open testimony the Division of Employment Security of Massachusetts would consider cancelling the balance due and forgiving him the debt. Now that he has testified they have so notified him. Matter is apparently resolved.

RE MARIAN MILLER, CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT, "THIS IS YOUR LIFE":

Miller was an informant on communist matters in Los Angeles from 1950 to 1955. [REDACTED]  
On March 28, 1956, Mrs. Miller was featured on "This Is Your Life," NBC television. Director was requested to appear on this program by letter dated February 28, 1956, from Axel Gruenberg, producer for Mr. Ralph Edwards. Director declined the invitation but a letter was forwarded to Gruenberg addressed to Mr. Edwards to be read over the television program honoring her.

AXEL GRUENBERG:

Bureau has never conducted any investigation of Gruenberg. It was noted that in January, 1946, the name of one Axel Gruenberg was included on a list of names of the Hollywood Writers Mobilization, Radio Committee, which list consisted of 30 individuals, 7 of whom were known communists. (Hollywood Writers Mobilization was cited by Attorney General as within the purview of Executive Order 9835. Mr. Gruenberg was reported a member of the Workshop Committee of the same organization in May of 1946.

OBSERVATIONS:

There is little question that the appearance of Penha, who incidentally does not know that this overture has been made, according to Gruenberg, would show the current menace of communism and would on a nationwide basis show the need of confidential informants to penetrate the conspiracy.

With the feeling that possibly communism is no longer a menace, this type of program might countermand the trend.

The problem, of course, arises over whether or not we want to go as far in this one as we did in connection with the Miller matter. On it, of course, the letter by the Director was read in connection with the program.

Mr. Nease

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend attached airtel be sent to SAC Brown, that he contact Gruenberg, acknowledge Gruenberg's letter and tell him that the Bureau has no objections to Penha appearing on "This Is Your Life. " Further, that SAC Brown should tell Gruenberg that our granting of permission in this regard does not in anyway constitute endorsement of this particular program but if he so desires we will be glad to review the script for factual accuracy.

*gwp*  
*JB*

*ech*  
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*ex*  
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## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Rosen *RJG*

DATE: 4/15/58

FROM : F. L. Price *FLP*SUBJECT: ARMANDO PENHA  
FORMER BUREAU SECURITY INFORMANT

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Boardman ☒  
 Belmont ☒  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

This is to advise that Supervisor R. J. Gallagher of the Criminal Section last night, 4/14/58, received a telephone call from captioned individual.

Penha, from 1950 to 1955, served as a Bureau security informant of the Boston Office. He furnished considerable valuable information regarding Communist Party activities. In March, 1958, he publicly testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities (HCUA) and received front-page publicity.

Supervisor Gallagher, while assigned to the Providence, Rhode Island, Resident Agency of the Boston Office, assisted in the development of Penha and contacted him regularly during 1950 and 1951. These contacts were at least on a weekly basis and sometimes more often. Penha at the time was extremely active in the Communist Party in the New Bedford-Fall River, Massachusetts, area. He regularly submitted reports on Communist Party activities in that area and, in addition, furnished considerable information concerning Communist Party activities in Rhode Island.

Penha advised SA Gallagher that he was in Washington and had been in contact with the HCUA. He said he was leaving to go to North Carolina to testify before hearings being held in that state. Penha said he had "come out in the open" in March, 1958, when he testified before the HCUA concerning communist activities in the Northeast. He said he had been in Washington several times and had wanted to contact SA Gallagher, but did not think it was discreet to do so.

Penha's call was social in nature. He advised SA Gallagher that he had been the guest of honor at a banquet attended by the Governor and had been given the American Legion Americanism Award. He had also been honored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Amvets. He said he was now working as an investigator for the State of Massachusetts Veterans Commission. He advised SA Gallagher of his current family status, mentioning the schooling of his two older children, that his wife had a serious operation the year before, and that he had been under a terrific strain, but now that he was "out in the open" a big burden had been lifted from him. Penha said he had

100-372696

1 - Mr. Belmont

RJG:jlp (5)

EX-110

REC

100-372696-113

APR 22 1958

7274

Gallagher

INT. SEC.

Memorandum for Mr. Rosen

thought often of SA Gallagher and wanted to continue contact with him throughout the years but knew that this would not be proper as long as he was in an undercover capacity. It is to be noted that SA Gallagher has not been in contact with Penha since sometime in 1952. Penha did not request anything during his call and it appeared that he merely wanted to talk about his recent activities.

The above is being submitted for record purposes.

RB

Re



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 4/25/58

b6  
b7C  
b7EFROM : SAC, BOSTON SUBJECT: ARMANDO PENHA  
FORMER SOURCE OF INFORMATION

*Ph*

New Bedford, Massachusetts, telephoned me today. He said he is a member of the Program Committee of the Exchange Club in New Bedford and as such was recommending PENHA as the recipient for an annual award made by the Exchange Club called "Golden Deeds."  stated that this award is made by the Exchange Club to a member of a given community who has performed outstanding service in that area. The award would be bestowed some time in June at the Annual Conference of the Exchange Club.

asked me to issue a statement as to the value of the services performed by PENHA for the FBI. I told the doctor that PENHA never was a Special Agent of the FBI, although he voluntarily furnished to this Bureau information of a security nature which came to his attention concerning subversive activities from 1950 until 1958.  asked me if I would furnish this information to him in writing and I told him that I would not, but that I was merely advising him of Penha's association with the FBI in order that there would be no misunderstanding as to his actual role. This is for the information of the Bureau.

LLL:maw  
(3)

REC-95

100-372696-114  
APR 29 1958

EX-101

53 MAY 2 1958

IN SEC.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-372696)

DATE: 4/29/58

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b7D  
b7E

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (66-3851-1032)

SUBJECT: ARMANDO PENHA  
SOI

Re Boston letters 3/25 and 4/1/58.

Indices NYO contain no reference to Lippencott Publishers.

Only reference to STERLING LORD is NY 100-48840-3924, p.2, which is NY Airtel dated 10/25/57 reflecting that STERLING LORD is the agent for CHARLES SAMUELS, proposed co-writer on book by BORIS MORROS.

NYO indices contain no reference to Julian Mess Co., 10 West 40th Street, NYC, but there are numerous references to the publisher Julian Messner, Inc., 8 West 40th Street, NYC, obviously identical with the Julian Mess Co. mentioned by PENHA. Following are pertinent references to Julian Messner, Inc.:

100-3451-22, p.28: Report of SA GEORGE E. DAVIS, WFO, 4/29/48, entitled "EDWARD GROFF CONKLIN, IS-C". References furnished by CONKLIN included JULIAN MESSNER of Julian Messner, Inc., 8 West 40th Street, NYC. In 1943 MESSNER stated that he had known CONKLIN 9 to 10 years and had published 2 of his books. He considered CONKLIN a 100% American. CONKLIN was interviewed on 1/6/44 and denied under oath that he had ever been a CP member.

100-9786-6, p.50: Report of SA [redacted] Oklahoma City, 3/19/42, captioned "Communist Activities in the State of Oklahoma, IS-C" reflects that a letter signed by Julian Messner, Inc., Publishers, 83 40th Street, New York, dated 9/5/41, "condemning the Criminal Syndicalism trials and urging release of the Communist Defendants" was obtained by the Oklahoma City office, no source indicated. K

100-58561-18: [redacted] furnished information concerning [redacted] Chicago, Illinois. Among [redacted]

It is noted, however, that [redacted]

[redacted] so significance would appear to be negligible.

2 - Bureau (100-372696) RM  
2 - Boston [redacted] RM  
1 - New York (66-3851-1032)

WMD:rml  
(5)

66 MAY 6 1958

REC-74

MAY 1 1958

SUBV. CONTROL

66-3851-1032

Regarding [redacted] advised in 8/52 that he had learned from an individual familiar with the operations of [redacted] that [redacted] was, in effect, owned by the CP of Illinois.

100-50870-1B35: On 9/5/50, former [redacted] conceal by request, who has furnished reliable information in the past, made available a mimeographed copy of a 3 page motion, NO. 248, in the Supreme Court of the United States, October Term, 1949, for petitioners JOHN HOWARD LAWSON and DALTON TRUMBO (2 of the Hollywood Ten). The motion was for Leave to File Brief as Amici Curae by counsel for a number of publishers, writers, playwrights and theatrical producers who maintained that "the kind of proceedings before the House Committee on Un-American Activities involved in these two cases effectively restrains...the free creation and communication of ideas." Included among the names of the various publishers, writers, etc. was Mrs. JULIAN MESSNER.

100-0-90790: By letter dated 8/27/53, the Los Angeles Office advised NYO that under separate cover, a quantity of the personal papers of CEDRIC BELFRAGE were being submitted to NYO, which papers had been obtained from a former residence of BELFRAGE. Among these papers was a letter from Julian Messner, Inc. Publishers, requesting BELFRAGE to send a copy of his manuscript "Promised Land". CEDRIC BELFRAGE is the former editor of the "National Guardian" who has been deported to England.

100-3633-1a45: The March, 1945 issue of "Congress View", published by the National Negro Congress, contains an item on page 6 entitled "Offer Prize". This item states that "Julian Messner, Inc. has announced the offer of a \$3,000 prize for 'the best book promoting racial or religious tolerance in America', submitted up to January 1, 1946." Further information to be obtained from the publishers, 8 40th Street, NY 18, NY. National Negro Congress has been cited under EO 10450.

Indices NYO list JULIAN MESSNER as a member of the League of American Writers in 1941.

It was ascertained by this office in 8/54 that JULIAN MESSNER was deceased and that the firm was being operated by his widow. No other pertinent references were located.

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F B I

Date: 5/1/58

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Evans	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

Transmit the following in PLAIN TEXT  
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-372696)  
ATTENTION: SECURITY INFORMANT SECTION  
FROM: SAC, BOSTON

ARMANDO PENHA  
(Former )

Re Boston airtel to Bureau, 4/25/58.

ARMANDO PENHA advised SA  on 5/1/58 as follows:

PENHA received written invitation from HUGH GREGG, former Governor of New Hampshire, to attend testimonial to CAROL FOSTER on 4/30/58 at Nashua Country Club, Nashua, N.H. FOSTER and PENHA were HCUA witnesses at hearing in Boston 3/18 - 3/21/58.

PENHA drove from New Bedford, Mass. on 4/30/58, making a stop at Newton, Mass., and later drove to Nashua, N.H. Upon his arrival at the Testimonial Dinner, GREGG introduced himself to PENHA, and as GREGG was the Toastmaster, asked PENHA if he wished to make a speech. PENHA declined and said he had not prepared a speech. GREGG then stated, "I heard you were down to Washington recently," to which PENHA replied in the affirmative. This was all the conversation PENHA had with GREGG relative to his recent trip to Washington.

REC-30

GREGG then told PENHA he would call on the latter to take a bow at the FOSTER Dinner, and GREGG said he had ~~heard~~ <sup>read</sup> about PENHA and would make a few introductory remarks concerning him.

During the introduction GREGG spoke of PENHA he said, "He has just flown here from Washington where he has been for the past few weeks obtaining material from the FBI to be furnished to

(3) Bureau (100-372696) (RM)  
2- Boston   
(1 - 100-32353 HCUA Hearings)

JBD:bat

53 MAY 7- 1958

Approved:                      Sent                      M Per                       
Special Agent in Charge

[REDACTED]

other Government units for use at hearings and trials."

PENHA stated that he said nothing to GREGG about what he was doing in Washington other than the fact that he had been there. He said that GREGG knew he did not just fly to Nashua from Washington as he had told GREGG he drove there from Newton, Mass. and he desired to drive back to New Bedford, Mass. after the Testimonial Dinner.

PENHA said that the remarks of GREGG were based on an erroneous assumption on GREGG's part and that where GREGG was the Master of Ceremonies and a present candidate for Governor of New Hampshire, PENHA did not feel he could stand up to refute this statement publicly, after having told GREGG he would not make a speech.

LAUGHLIN

April 18, 1958

*ccy*  
Airtel

To: SAC, Los Angeles

From: Director, FBI

**CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT ARMANDO PENHA OF NEW BEDFORD,  
MASSACHUSETTS, "THIS IS YOUR LIFE" TELEVISION PROGRAM.**

Re Boston teletype to Bureau April 11, 1958.

Attached is an Autostat of a letter from Axel Gruenberg,  
producer of "This Is Your Life," dated April 11, 1958. It is self-explanatory.

The Bureau has no objections to Gruenberg arranging for  
Penha's appearance on the program.

SAC Los Angeles should contact Gruenberg, acknowledge his  
letter to the Director and advise him that our consent in this matter does not  
in any way constitute an endorsement of this particular program, and if  
Gruenberg desires, we would, of course, be glad to review the script prior to  
the program for any factual inaccuracies. *E*

Copy of Gruenberg's letter and copy of this airtel to Los  
Angeles being designated for Boston's information.

Enclosure

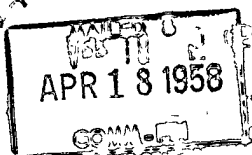
1-Boston--Enclosure

*100-372696- ✓*  
NOT RECORDED  
126 MAY 8 1958

NOTE: See Jones to Nease memo 4/16/58, ECK:grs, re same caption.

ECK:grs  
(7)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_



9 1958 F-256  
MAIL ROOM

FBI

RECEIVED 107200

1328

ORIGINAL FILED IN 94-42338-17

RALPH EDWARDS

1655 NORTH CHEROKEE AVENUE • HOLLYWOOD 28, CALIFORNIA

April 11,  
1958

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Chief  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

You may recall that on March 28, 1956, with the approval of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the cooperation of the Regional office here in Los Angeles, THIS IS YOUR LIFE was able to present the story of Marian Miller, who worked with the F.B.I. in order to uncover some of the activities of the Communist Conspiracy.

Currently a very similar story has been urgently suggested to us in the person of ARMANDO PENHA of New Bedford, Massachusetts, who recently testified before the House Un-American Activities Committee in Boston. Feeling that "doing" his life may serve to further emphasize to the Nation the very real and ever present dangers that Communism poses to the American way of life, we are naturally interested in this story. We could not however -- and would not if we could -- proceed any further without your acquiescence and the cooperation of the Bureau both in Washington and in Boston.

Mr. Penha, of course, knows nothing of this, but should you grant your approval and if the actual facts coincide with those revealed in newspaper articles and we decide to proceed with the story, his wife of course, and those closest to him would have to give their approval.

100-372696-  
NOT RECORDED

We are grateful to you for 126 MAY 8 1958  
always given us in the past and for the help and cooperation  
given us in your office.

52 MAY 9 1958

F-256

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Trotter  
Mr. Clegg  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

ORIGINAL FILED IN 94-42338-16

F B I

Date: 4/25/58

Transmit the following in PLAIN TEXT  
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-372696)  
 Attention: SECURITY INFORMANT SECTION  
 FROM : SAC, BOSTON [REDACTED]  
 SUBJECT: ARMANDO PENHA  
 (FORMER [REDACTED])

ARMANDO PENHA confidentially advised that upon request of HCUA, went to Washington, D.C. on 4/13/58 and conferred with HCUA Director 4/14/58. He was furnished with a Credential Card containing his photograph and signature, which designated he was a "special consultant" of the HCUA.

He left Washington by plane on 4/15/58 and went to High Point, North Carolina, where he hired a car and travelled 700 miles in North Carolina visiting people whom he met on his trip south in September, 1955, as a member of the National Textile Commission of the CP. His purpose in seeing these people was to try to have them agree to be witnesses for HCUA. Of seven people he visited, one agreed. He was [REDACTED] in Durham, North Carolina, who is a member of the City Committee of the CP in Durham.

PENHA returned to Washington, D.C. from North Carolina on 4/20/58; wrote report of his trip south and conferred with

- 3 - Bureau (100-372696) (RM)  
 1 - Charlotte (100-6346) [REDACTED] (RM)  
 4 - Boston [REDACTED]  
     (1 - 100-32353 - HCUA HEARINGS)  
     (1 - 100-13336 [REDACTED])  
     (1 - 100-26202 [REDACTED])

JBD:cm  
 (8)

REC- 26

APR 28 1958

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

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*117*

*INT. SEC.*

153 MAY 9 1958



PAGE TWO

Director RICHARD ARENS of HCUA on 4/21/58. He then came to NYC to see a few people, but was unsuccessful in locating them and returned to New Bedford 4/23/58. *on 2/1 and case closed. ABA*

He is scheduled to visit [redacted], BUFILE 100-246336, of Boston, and [redacted], BUFILE 100-367310, of New Bedford, to see if they will agree to being witnesses for HCUA. During week of April 28 or following week, he is to return to NYC to conduct similar inquiry for the HCUA.

*former PSI,  
case closed  
since 2/25/58.  
SI call  
cancelled 7/58.  
ABH*

For his trip south, the HCUA paid PENHA \$300 and are paying his expenses. The HCUA also plans to pay him \$300 for May for the work he will do in Massachusetts and NYC. His Credential is valid until 6/1/58 and the HCUA told him they will continue its validity at that time, if he is willing to continue in that type of work.

He was told by Director ARENS the Committee plans to hold a hearing in North Carolina or Georgia latter part of May or early June, and PENHA will be witness at that hearing.

[redacted] probably identical with [redacted], CHARLOTTE origin.

LAUGHLIN.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-372696)  
(ATT: SECURITY INFORMANT SECTION)

DATE May 19, 1958

b6  
b7C  
b7D  
b7E

FROM : SAC, BOSTON [ ]

SUBJECT: ARMANDO PENHA  
SOURCE OF INFORMATION

On May 6, 1958, [ ] advised SA [ ] that he had received a visit on April 29, 1958, from HOMER CHASE of New Hampshire, a Communist Party leader who had come to the Fall River, Massachusetts, area to contact the Communist Party members in that city.

CHASE in discussing ARMANDO PENHA stated that PENHA was expelled from the Communist Party for stealing funds and that when EULA FIGUEIREDO's deportation case came up, PENHA went to a Mrs. ROGERS (there is no Mrs. ROGERS in the Communist Party of New Bedford but there is a Mrs. PALMEDA ROGERSON) and asked her if he could join the fight to help EULA FIGUEIREDO even though he understood he was expelled from the Party. Later at a meeting of the committee, SIDNEY LIPSHIRES (former New England Organizer of the Communist Party) proposed PENHA for reinstatement. The Committee voted against PENHA by a vote of four to two. LIPSHIRES, however, appealed to the District Committee and forced PENHA's return.

CHASE then told [ ] JAMES REX and ERNEST AUDET (both REX and AUDET are Security Index subjects and were with [ ] at the time), "Here is PENHA's record - He stole money from the Party - Previously stole from a labor union and also from the John Hancock Insurance Company. He has been out with several women and broke up a home in which the husband threatened to kill him".

On May 6, 1958, SA [ ] questioned ARMANDO PENHA about the various charges made by CHASE to [ ] and PENHA denied them all categorically.

PENHA gave the following explanation of the manner in which he severed his connections with the John Hancock Insurance Company:

REGISTERED MAIL

JBD:ds

(4)

*et to Boston*  
*5-29-58*  
*BFR:ell*

100-372696-118  
12 MAY 22 1958

[redacted]

He stated he was employed as a Debit Agent and Salesman for the John Hancock Insurance Company, New Bedford, Massachusetts, about 1946 to 1950. At that time he had a license to sell life and group insurance.

He said he had offered his services to the Bureau about February or March, 1950, and thereafter when he became active in the Communist Party he was unable to devote any night work to his insurance business because of his night activity with the Communist Party, with the result that his production fell off and he received some reprimands and criticism from the manager of the insurance company.

Sometime about July or August, 1952, two customers of the insurance company called the office when they had been dunned to pay a premium and said they had already paid it to PENHA. When the manager questioned him about it, PENHA said that if the customers had a receipt from him, then they must have paid it and through errors of bookkeeping on his part he neglected to turn the premiums in to the company. PENHA turned into the company a sum not in excess of \$30 and the manager asked him to resign which he did. PENHA said he believed he was asked to resign not because of any defalcation so much as the fact that his production had fallen down. As proof of the fact that he was not discharged from the John Hancock Insurance Company he pointed out that he collected unemployment insurance for several weeks after that until he got another job.

PENHA said he did not mention this to the FBI at the time because his conscience was clear in the matter and saw no reason to mention it.

Referral/Consult

In view of the fact that PENHA's services are [redacted]  
[redacted] these facts will be related to that agency.

1 - Mr. Rose

May 29, 1958

SAC, Boston 

Director, FBI (100-372696) - 118

REC-83

ARMANDO PENHA  
SOURCE OF INFORMATION

Reurlet 5-19-58 advising Mr. Homer Chase of New Hampshire, a Communist Party leader, has alleged that Penha stole money from the Party, previously stole from a labor union and also from the John Hancock Insurance Company.

You are instructed to review the files of your office and determine if there is any basis for the above allegations. If the files of your office do not reflect the reason why Penha was discharged from the John Hancock Insurance Company, a discreet contact should be made with appropriate officials of this insurance company and a determination made as to whether or not Penha while employed by this company misappropriated company funds.

BFR:eeb *eeb*

(4)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Clayton \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL ROOM ☒

COMM - FBI

MAY 29 1958

MAILED 31

52 JUN 5 1958

JUN 5 1958

May 19, 1958

REC-69

EX-128

100-37676-114  
Honorable Joseph G. Duggan  
179 William Street  
New Bedford, Massachusetts

My dear Mr. Duggan:

Thank you very much for your letter dated May 12, 1958. It was kind of you to invite me to be the guest of the city of New Bedford on June 8, 1958, on the occasion of the testimonial honoring Mr. Armando Penha.

I would indeed be happy to join you for this event if it were at all possible to do so. Unfortunately, a prior commitment precludes my acceptance.

May I express the hope that the affair will be a completely successful and enjoyable one.

Sincerely yours,

1 - Boston - Enclosure

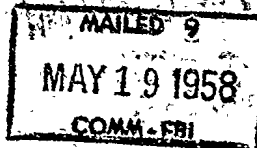
J. Edgar Hoover

MLL:sms  
(4)

NOTE: Mr. Duggan EOD as a student fingerprint classifier 9/3/35 and resigned 1/26/37.

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MAIL ROOM ☐



JOSEPH C. DUGGAN  
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW  
179 WILLIAM STREET  
CORNER OF EIGHTH STREET  
NEW BEDFORD, MASS.  
TELEPHONE WYMAN 3-7691

Mr. Tolson ✓  
Mr. Boardman ✓  
Mr. Belmont ✓  
Mr. Mohr ✓  
Mr. Nease ✓  
Mr. Parsons ✓  
Mr. Rosen ✓  
Mr. Tamm ✓  
Mr. Trotter ✓  
Mr. Clayton ✓  
Tele. Room ✓  
Mr. Holloman ✓  
Miss Gandy ✓

Joseph C. Duggan - Former Student Fingerprint Classifier - EOD 9/3/35 - resigned 1/26/37 to accept a position in the Division of Accounts, Department of Justice. His services were satisfactory.

May 12, 1958

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover  
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Department of Justice  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Edgar:

You will perhaps recall the undersigned as Assistant Attorney General in 1951 and 1952 and as an original employee of the Bureau.

I am presently serving as City Solicitor for the City of New Bedford and am writing to you at this time on behalf of the public authorities of New Bedford, Dartmouth, Acushnet and Fairhaven in connection with a proposed civic community testimonial honoring Mr. Armando Penha of 22 Dover Street, Fairhaven who recently testified before the House Un-American Activities Committee during lengthy hearings on Communism in Boston.

Mayor Francis J. Lawler of New Bedford, under whose administration I serve, has appointed Mr. Penha as a Veterans' Benefits investigator for the City of New Bedford, and in response to many requests, the City and neighboring towns have agreed to sponsor a testimonial dinner recognizing his patriotic counter-spy activities.

It is proposed to hold the testimonial banquet at Lincoln Park, between New Bedford and Fall River on Sunday, June 8, 1958 at 6:30 P. M. and it is anticipated over 1,000 persons will be present on this occasion.

From my own experience in the Department, I am aware of the many demands upon your time and energies for public appearances, but I am taking the liberty of extending an invitation to you for this occasion in view of the particular nature of Mr. Penha's services and his intimate connection with the Bureau.

EX-128

REC-69 17 MAY 22 1958

EXP. PROC.  
MAY 14 1958

one letter 5-19-58 Williams

100-372696-117  
1 auto MW  
3-58-978-1-3

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover

-2-

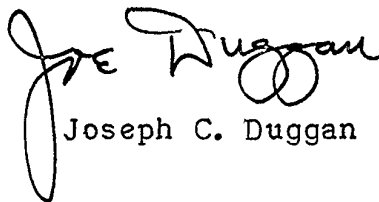
May 12, 1958

We have assurance that Congressman Walter, Chairman of the Committee will be present, together with as many other members who can leave Washington and have already received acceptance from Dick Arens, Director of the Committee who conducted the hearings in Boston.

Please be assured that the City of New Bedford would be pleased and honored to have you as its official guest on this occasion, and personally, I would deem it a distinct pleasure to renew our acquaintance on the occasion of public testimony to the valuable patriotic services of Mr. Penha in combating the menace of communism.

With kindest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

  
Joseph C. Duggan

JCD:jmp

F B I

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Date: 6/6/58

Transmit the following in PLAIN TEXT  
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL - REGISTERED  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-372696) ATT: SECURITY INFORMANT SECTION  
 FROM : SAC, BOSTON [REDACTED]  
 SUBJECT: ARMANDO PENHA  
 SOURCE OF INFORMATION

ARMANDO PENHA advised SA [REDACTED] on 6/4/58 that GEORGE WILLIAMS, HCUA Investigator contacted him on 6/3/58 and told PENHA to keep open the dates of July 8 and 9 next as PENHA will be called as a witness before a HCUA hearing to be held at Atlanta, Georgia on those dates.

For the information of Atlanta, ARMANDO PENHA was formerly [REDACTED]

- ③ - Bureau (100-372696)(RM)
- 1 - Atlanta (RM)
- 1 - Boston ([REDACTED])

JBD:RW  
(4)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11/25/82 BY SP6 BJA/gpr

REC-1

100-372696-120

JUN 9 1958

INT. SEC.

UNRECORDED

61-7582-1

Approved: [Signature]

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

JUN 24 1958



100-372696-120 (OUTG. ONLY)

**CHANGED TO**

61-7582-3828

**JUN 24 1958**

                      
*MS*  
                    

@

Assistant Attorney General  
Internal Security Division

May 9, 1958

Director, FBI

Attention: [redacted]  
Records Administration Branch

*gml*

[redacted]  
[redacted] - Metalsmith (Aviation)  
Department of the Navy  
Quonset Point, Rhode Island  
SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Reference is made to this Bureau's memorandum dated September 19, 1955, to former Assistant Attorney General, William F. Tompkins, regarding the captioned matter. The confidential informant who furnished the information contained in the memorandum of September 19, 1955, is Armando Penha. Mr. Penha recently testified before a public hearing of the House Committee on Un-American Activities. During his testimony the fact he had in the past furnished this Bureau information of a security nature was disclosed.

Background data regarding Mr. Penha was furnished the Department in this Bureau's memorandum to former Assistant Attorney General, William F. Tompkins, dated January 13, 1958, entitled John Franco Pacheco, Security Matter - C.

For your additional information it may be noted that Mr. Penha is identical with Boston T-13 in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated April 20, 1955. A copy of this report was furnished the Department with the Bureau's memorandum of April 28, 1955. Boston T-3 in this report is [redacted] and Boston T-16 is [redacted] and [redacted] in the past furnished this Bureau information of a security nature. [redacted] has recently testified before a public session of the House Committee on Un-American Activities and [redacted] has testified before the Subversive Activities Control Board.

The above is furnished to supplement the data previously made available to the Department regarding the captioned matter.

149-7746

(1) 100-421896

(1) 100-372696

(Penha)

NOT RECORDED  
45 MAY 13 1958

JUN 19 1958

MAY 19 1958

(See note on page 2)

ORIGINAL FILED IN 149-7746-59

**Assistant Attorney General  
Internal Security Division**

Note: [ ] was dismissed from his Navy employment on 7-29-55. His dismissal received considerable publicity as a result of his statement he was fired because of his parent's alleged membership in a "suspect organization." [ ] and his mother testified before a public hearing on 8-31-55 of the Sub-Committee of the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service Commission, U. S. Senate, 84th Congress, 1st Session (Johnston Committee), which was inquiring into the operation of the Federal Employees Security Program. During the testimony, [ ] mother, in response to the question as to whether she had belonged to any organizations sympathetic to the communist movement replied she had belonged to the Progressive Party, the International Women's League for Peace and Freedom and the World Affairs Council.

The info in the memo to Department of 9-19-55, reflects the informant attended a Section Committee Meeting of the Communist Party (CP) on 8-23-55, at Providence, Rhode Island, during which CP members present referred to [ ] mother as a communist and discussed the possibilities of attempting to guide the mother in connection with her scheduled testimony before the Johnston Committee. Referenced memo of 9-19-55, points out to the Department disclosure of the informant's information at that time would probably result in his exposure which would hamper other security investigations in which the informant was furnishing valuable data. Accordingly it is believed we should now advise the Department of the identity of the informant.

The information from [ ] in the 4-28-55, report relates to [ ] mother's affiliation with the Minute Women for Peace and the information from [ ] concerns the connection between the Massachusetts Council of American-Soviet Friendship and the national council of this organization.

140-10404

b6  
b7E

Date: June 12, 1958

To: Mr. Kimbell Johnson  
Chief, Investigations Division  
U. S. Civil Service Commission  
Washington 25, D. C.

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject:   
Department of State  
SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Reference is made to this Bureau's letter dated October 25, 1955, transmitting the results of the investigation conducted concerning the above-named individual under the provisions of Executive Order 10450.

This is to advise that Boston T-2, whose information appears in the report of Special Agent Joseph P. McDonough, dated October 14, 1955, at Boston, Massachusetts, is Armando Penha, who in the past has furnished this Bureau information of a security nature. Mr. Penha recently testified at a public hearing of the House Committee on Un-American Activities. In the event his testimony is desired in connection with this matter, this Bureau should be so advised in order that his availability for testimony in this case may be determined. (100-373001-34)

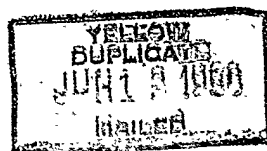
This is furnished for your information and should not be disseminated to unauthorized persons or agencies.

- 1 - AAG, Internal Security Division (Under separate cover)  
① - 100-372696 (Armando Penha)

Note: Armando Penha, former  was an informant of our Boston Office from 1950 to 1957. He was a paid informant and a member of the Communist Party. He testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in Boston in 1958.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

RHE:lgm  
(7)



100-372696 - V  
NOT RECORDED  
195 JUN 16 1958

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 140-10404-11

62 JUN 17 1958

140-12977

Date: June 11, 1958

To: Mr. Kimbell Johnson  
Chief, Investigations Division  
U. S. Civil Service Commission  
Washington 25, D. C.

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject:   
GENERAL SERVICES Administration  
SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Reference is made to this Bureau's letter dated August 15, 1956, transmitting the results of the investigation conducted concerning the above-named individual under the provisions of Executive Order 10450.

This is to advise that Boston T-1, whose information appears in the report of Special Agent John E. Kenry, dated July 26, 1956, at Boston, Massachusetts, is Armando Penha, who in the past has furnished this Bureau information of a security nature. Mr. Penha recently testified at a public hearing of the House Committee on Un-American Activities. In the event his testimony is desired in connection with this matter, this Bureau should be so advised in order that his availability for testimony in this case may be determined.

(100-373001-34)

This is furnished for your information and should not be disseminated to unauthorized persons or agencies.

- ① - 100-372696 (Armando Penha) *100-372696* ✓  
1 - AAG, Internal Security Division *NOT RE under separate cover*  
RHE:egm *egm*  
149 JUN 13 1958  
(7)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Armando Penha, former  was an informant of our Boston Office from 1950 to 1957. He was a paid informant and a member of the Communist Party. He testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in Boston in 1958.

62 JUN 13 1958  
MAIL ROOM ☐

ORIGINAL FILE IN

140-11226

Date: June 12, 1958

To: Mr. Kimbell Johnson  
Chief, Investigations Division  
U. S. Civil Service Commission  
Washington 25, D. C.

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject:   
Department of Health, Education,  
and Welfare  
SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Reference is made to this Bureau's letter dated January 25, 1956, transmitting the results of investigation conducted concerning the above-named individual under the provisions of Executive Order 10450.

This is to advise that Boston T-1, whose information appears in the report of Special Agent  dated January 18, 1956, at Boston, Massachusetts, is Armando Penha, who in the past has furnished this Bureau information of a security nature. Mr. Penha recently testified at a public hearing of the House Committee on Un-American Activities. In the event his testimony is desired in connection with this matter, this Bureau should be so advised in order that his availability for testimony in this case may be determined. (100-373001-34)

This is furnished for your information and should not be disseminated to unauthorized persons or agencies.

- 1 - AAG, Internal Security Division (Under separate cover)  
① - 100-372696 (Armando Penha)

Note: Armando Penha, former  was an informant of our Boston Office from 1950 to 1957. He was a paid informant and a member of the Communist Party. He testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in Boston in 1958.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

RHE:lgm  
(7)

MAIL ROOM ☐

50 JUN 17 1958



100-372696-✓  
NOT RECORDED  
199 JUN 16 1958

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 140-11226-112

140-11938

Date: June 12, 1958

To: Mr. Kimbell Johnson  
Chief, Investigations Division  
U. S. Civil Service Commission  
Washington 25, D. C.

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject:   
Department of the Navy  
SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Reference is made to this Bureau's letter dated May 4, 1958, transmitting the results of the investigation conducted concerning the above-named individual under the provisions of Executive Order 10450.

This is to advise that Boston T-3, whose information appears in the report of Special Agent John F. Toomey, Jr., dated April 12, 1958, at Boston, Massachusetts, is Armando Penha, who in the past has furnished this Bureau information of a security nature. Mr. Penha recently testified at a public hearing of the House Committee on Un-American Activities. In the event his testimony is desired in connection with this matter, this Bureau should be so advised in order that his availability for testimony in this case may be determined.

(100-373001-34)

This is furnished for your information and should not be disseminated to unauthorized persons or agencies.

(1) AAG Internal Security Division (encl.) (under separate cover)

(1) 100-372696 (Armando Penha)

RHE:jab

(7)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Armando Penha, former  was an informant of our Boston Office from 1950 to 1957. He was a paid informant and a member of the Communist Party. He testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in Boston in 1958.

100-372696-  
NOT RECORDED  
199 JUN 16 1958

MAIL ROOM ☐

50 JUN 17 1958

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 140-11938-8

Assistant Attorney General

June 11, 1958

~~William F. Tompkins~~

Internal Security Division

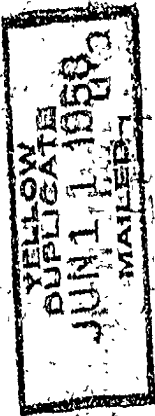
Director, FBI

Attention: [REDACTED]

Records Administration Branch

[REDACTED]

General Services Administration  
SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES



Reference is made to this Bureau's memorandum dated August 15, 1956, furnishing a copy of each of the reports covering an investigation conducted concerning the captioned individual. These reports were furnished for information and consideration as to whether the data developed indicated a violation of any Federal law.

100-372696-11  
NOT RECORDED

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mason \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed herewith is a copy of this Bureau's letter of this date to the U. S. Civil Service Commission together with a copy of its enclosure containing further information regarding the captioned matter. This is being furnished to supplement the data previously forwarded to the Department in this case. Background information regarding Mr. Penha was furnished the Department in this Bureau's memorandum dated January 13, 1958, concerning [REDACTED]

Enclosure Security Matter - C.

140-12977

① - 100-372696 (Armando Penha)

RHE:cgm

(3)

FILED IN



Assistant Attorney General

June 12, 1958

~~WILLIAM F. FLOPPERS~~

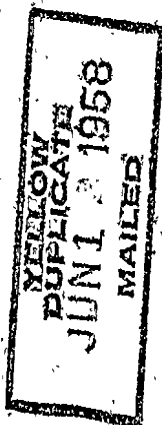
Internal Security Division

Director, FBI

Attention: [REDACTED]

Records Administration Branch

[REDACTED]  
 Department of State  
 SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES



Reference is made to this Bureau's memorandum dated October 25, 1955, furnishing a copy of each of the reports covering an investigation conducted concerning the captioned individual. These reports were furnished for information and consideration as to whether the data developed indicated a violation of any Federal law.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mason \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed herewith is a copy of this Bureau's letter of this date to the U. S. Civil Service Commission, together with a copy of its enclosure containing further information regarding the captioned matter. This is being furnished to supplement the data previously forwarded to the Department in this case. Background information regarding Mr. Penha was furnished the Department in this Bureau's memorandum dated January 13, 1958, concerning [REDACTED] Security

Enclosure Matter - C.  
 140-10404 ① - 100-372696 (Armando Penha)

RHE:lgm  
 (3)

50 JUN 17 1958

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 100-10404-12

140-5120

Date: June 11, 1958

To: Mr. Kimbell Johnson  
Chief, Investigations Division  
U. S. Civil Service Commission  
Washington 25, D. C.

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject:   
Department of Commerce  
SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Reference is made to this Bureau's letter dated September 28, 1954, transmitting the results of the investigation conducted concerning the above-named individual under the provisions of Executive Order 10450.

This is to advise that Boston T-8 whose information appears in the report of Special Agent William J. Panttaja, dated September 15, 1954, at Boston, Massachusetts, is Armando Penha, who in the past has furnished this Bureau information of a security nature. Mr. Penha recently testified at a public hearing of the House Committee on Un-American Activities. In the event his testimony is desired in connection with this matter, this Bureau should be so advised in order that his availability for testimony in this case may be determined. (100-373001-34)

This is furnished for your information and should not be disseminated to unauthorized persons or agencies.

(1) AAG Internal Security Division (Under separate cover) (encl)

(1) 100-372696 (Armando Penha)

Note: Armando Penha, former  was an informant of our Boston Office from 1950 to 1957. He was a paid informant and member of the Communist Party. He testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in Boston in 1958.

RHE:tjl  
(7)

MAIL ROOM ☐

50 JUN 18 1958

100-372696-1  
NOT RECORDED  
169 JUN 13 1958

ORIGINAL FILED IN 140-5120-11

YELLOW  
DUPLICATE  
JUN 11 1958  
MAILED

olson \_\_\_\_\_  
chols \_\_\_\_\_  
rdman \_\_\_\_\_  
ont \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

June 11, 1958

Assistant Attorney General

~~W. J. Tompkins~~**Internal Security Division**

Director, FBI

Attention: [REDACTED]

Records Administration Branch

[REDACTED]

**Department of Commerce**  
**SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES**

YELLOW  
 DUPLICATE  
 JUN 11 1958  
 MAILED

Reference is made to this Bureau's memorandum dated October 13, 1954, furnishing a copy of each of the reports covering an investigation conducted concerning the captioned individual. These reports were furnished for information and consideration as to whether the data developed indicated a violation of any Federal law.

NOT RECORDED

169 JUN 13 1958

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mason \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed herewith is a copy of this Bureau's letter of this date to the U. S. Civil Service Commission together with a copy of its enclosure containing further information regarding the captioned matter. This is being furnished to supplement the data previously forwarded to the Department in this case. Background information regarding Mr. Penha was furnished the Department in this Bureau's memorandum dated January 13, 1958, concerning [REDACTED], Security Matter - C.

Enclosure

(1) 100-372696 (Armando Penha)

RHE:tjl

(3) 140-5120

ORIGINAL FILED IN

Assistant Attorney General

June 11, 1958

William F. Tompkins

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Internal Security Division

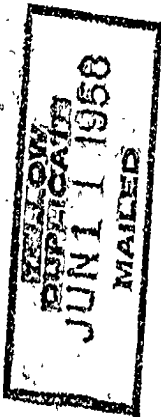
Director, FBI

Attention: [REDACTED]

Records Administration Branch

[REDACTED]

U. S. Civil Service Commission  
SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES



Reference is made to this Bureau's memorandum dated November 9, 1954, furnishing a copy of each of the reports covering an investigation conducted concerning the captioned individual. These reports were furnished for information and consideration as to whether the data developed indicated a violation of any Federal law.

NOT RECORDED

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mason \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed herewith is a copy of this Bureau's letter of this date to the U. S. Civil Service Commission together with a copy of its enclosure containing further information regarding the captioned matter. This is being furnished to supplement the data previously forwarded to the Department in this case. Background information regarding Mr. Penha was furnished the Department in this Bureau's memorandum dated January 13, 1958, concerning [REDACTED] Security Matter - C.

Enclosure

(1) 100-372696 (Armando Penha)

RHE:tjl

(3)

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-372696-1

JUN 18 1958

140-3369

140-3369

Date: June 11, 1958

To: Mr. Kimbell Johnson  
Chief, Investigations Division  
U. S. Civil Service Commission  
Washington 25, D. C.

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject:   
U. S. Civil Service Commission  
SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Reference is made to this Bureau's letter dated November 9, 1954, transmitting the results of the investigation conducted concerning the above-named individual under the provisions of Executive Order 10450.

This is to advise that Boston T-13 whose information appears in the report of Special Agent William J. Panttaja, dated October 7, 1954, at Boston, Massachusetts, is Armando Penha, who in the past has furnished this Bureau information of a security nature. Mr. Penha recently testified at a public hearing of the House Committee on Un-American Activities. In the event his testimony is desired in connection with this matter, this Bureau should be so advised in order that his availability for testimony in this case may be determined.

(100-373001-34)  
This is furnished for your information and should not be disseminated to unauthorized persons or agencies.

(1) AAG Internal Security Division (under separate cover) (encl)

(1) 100-372696 (Armando Penha)

Note: Armando Penha, former  was an informant of our Boston Office from 1950 to 1957. He was a paid informant and member of the Communist Party. He testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in Boston in 1958.

RHE:tjl

(7)

NOT RECORDED

169 JUN 13 1958

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

JUN 18 1958

ORIGINAL FILED IN 140-3369-20

Assistant Attorney General

June 12, 1958

~~William F. Tompkins~~

Internal Security Division

Director, FBI

Attention: [REDACTED]

Records Administration Branch

[REDACTED]

Tennessee Valley Authority  
SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

YELLOW  
DUPLICATE

JUN 12 1958

MAILED

Reference is made to this Bureau's memorandum dated February 3, 1954, furnishing a copy of each of the reports covering an investigation conducted concerning the captioned individual. These reports were furnished for information and consideration as to whether the data developed indicated a violation of any Federal law.

NOT RECORDED

145 JUN 17 1958

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mason \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed herewith is a copy of this Bureau's letter of this date to the U. S. Civil Service Commission ~~together with a copy of its enclosure~~ containing further information regarding the captioned matter. This is being furnished to supplement the data previously forwarded to the Department in this case. Background information regarding Mr. Penha was furnished the Department in this Bureau's memorandum dated January 13, 1958, concerning [REDACTED] Security Matter - C. Worden Mosher testified as a Government witness in the New Haven Smith Act trial.

Enclosure RHE:lgm

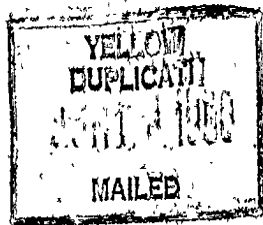
140-2380

1 - 100-372696 (Armando Penha)  
① - 100-374862 (Worden C. Mosher)

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN

Assistant Attorney General

June 16, 1958

~~William F. Tompkins~~Internal Security Division  
Director, FBIAttention:   
Records Administration Branch  
Department of the Air Force  
SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES100-372696-  
NOT RECORDED  
126 JUN 17 1958

Reference is made to this Bureau's memorandum dated January 14, 1953, furnishing a copy of each of the reports covering an investigation conducted concerning the captioned individual. These reports were furnished for information and consideration as to whether the data developed indicated a violation of any Federal law.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mason \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed herewith is a copy of this Bureau's letter of this date to the U. S. Civil Service Commission together with a copy of its enclosure containing further information regarding the captioned matter. This is being furnished to supplement the data previously forwarded to the Department in this case. Background information regarding Mr. Penha was furnished the Department in this Bureau's memorandum dated January 13, 1958, concerning  Security Enclosure Matter - C.

JUN 19 1958

121-41629

(1) 100-372696 (Armando Penha) RHE:jab

(2)

ORIGINAL FILED IN 121-41629-16

Assistant Attorney General

June 12, 1958

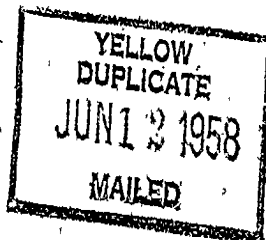
~~William F. Tompkins~~

Internal Security Division

Director, FBI

Attention: 

Records Administration Branch

**Tennessee Valley Authority**  
**SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES**


Reference is made to this Bureau's memorandum dated February 3, 1954, furnishing a copy of each of the reports covering an investigation conducted concerning the captioned individual. These reports were furnished for information and consideration as to whether the data developed indicated a violation of any Federal law.

100-372696  
NOT RECORDED  
JUN 17 1958

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mason \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed herewith is a copy of this Bureau's letter of this date to the U. S. Civil Service Commission ~~together with a copy of its enclosure~~ containing further information regarding the captioned matter. This is being furnished to supplement the data previously forwarded to the Department in this case. Background information regarding Mr. Penha was furnished the Department in this Bureau's memorandum dated January 13, 1958, concerning  Security Matter - C. Worden Mosher testified as a Government witness in the New Haven Smith Act trial. (Armando Penha)

(1) - 100-372696  
 (4) 140-2380 1 - 100-374862

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 140-2380-1

77 JUN 19 1958 RHE:lgm



Assistant Attorney General

June 12, 1958

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

Internal Security Division

Director, FBI

Attention: 

Records Administration Branch

Department of Health, Education,  
 and Welfare  
 SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES



Reference is made to this Bureau's memorandum dated January 25, 1956, furnishing a copy of each of the reports covering an investigation conducted concerning the captioned individual. These reports were furnished for information and consideration as to whether the data developed indicated a violation of any Federal law.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mason \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed herewith is a copy of this Bureau's letter of this date to the U. S. Civil Service Commission ~~together with a copy of its enclosure~~ containing further information regarding the captioned matter. This is being furnished to supplement the data previously forwarded to the Department in this case. Background information regarding Mr. Penha was furnished the Department in this Bureau's memorandum dated January 13, 1958, concerning  Security Matter - C.

Enclosure

(1) - 100-372696 (Armando Penha)

NOT RECORDED

JUN 17 1958

RHE:lgm (3)

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN

140-7176

Date: June 12, 1958

To: Mr. Kimbell Johnson  
Chief, Investigations Division  
U. S. Civil Service Commission  
Washington 25, D. C.

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject:   
Post Office Department  
SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Reference is made to this Bureau's letter dated January 31, 1955, transmitting the results of an appropriate inquiry conducted regarding the above-named individual under the provisions of Executive Order 10450.

This is to advise the Boston T-6, whose information appears in the report of Special Agent Joseph P. McDonough, dated January 21, 1955, at Boston, Massachusetts, is Armando Penha, who in the past has furnished this Bureau information of a security nature. Mr. Penha recently testified at a public hearing of the House Committee on Un-American Activities. (100-373001-34)

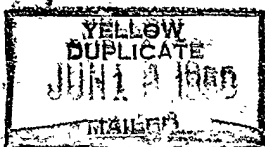
This is furnished for your information and should not be disseminated to unauthorized persons or agencies.

① - 100-372696 (Armando Penha)

NOTE: Armando Penha former  was an informant of our Boston Office from 1950 to 1957. He was a paid informant and a member of the Communist Party. He testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities, in Boston in 1958.

RHE:pam  
(6)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_



100-372696  
NOT RECORDED  
170 JUN 16 1958

Mail Room JUN 19 1958

COPY FILED IN 100-372696

121-44426

Date: June 12, 1958

To: Mr. Kimbell Johnson  
Chief, Investigations Division  
U. S. Civil Service Commission  
Washington 25, D. C.

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject:   
Central Intelligence Agency  
SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Reference is made to this Bureau's letter dated July 24, 1953, transmitting the results of the investigation conducted concerning the above-named individual under the provisions of Executive Order 10450.

This is to advise that Boston T-7 whose information appears in report of Special Agent William J. Panttaja, dated June 26, 1953, at Boston, Massachusetts, is Armando Penha, who in the past has furnished this Bureau information of a security nature. Mr. Penha recently testified at a public hearing at the House Committee on Un-American Activities. (100-373001-34)

This is furnished for your information and should not be disseminated to unauthorized persons or agencies.

① - 100-372696 (Armando Penha)

NOTE: Armando Penha, former  was an informant of our Boston Office from 1950 to 1957. He was a paid informant and a member of the Communist Party. He testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in Boston in 1958.

1 - AAG Internal Security Division (under separate cover)

RHE:pam

(7)

100-HQ-372696 Sect. 2 FDPS Pg. 279 1958

NOT RECORDED

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Mail Room

77 JUN 18 1958

PLATS ON ORIGINAL

121-33873

b6  
b7E

Date: June 12, 1958

To: Mr. Kimball Johnson  
Chief, Investigations Division  
U. S. Civil Service Commission  
Washington 25, D. C.

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject:   
Department of the Army  
SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Reference is made to this Bureau's letter dated January 24, 1952, transmitting the results of the investigation conducted concerning the above-named individual under the provisions of Executive Order 9835.

This is to advise that Boston T-1, whose information appears on page 7 of the report of Special Agent  dated December 21, 1951, at Boston, Massachusetts, is Armando Penha, who in the past has furnished this Bureau information of a security nature. Mr. Penha recently testified at a public hearing of the House Committee on Un-American Activities. In the event his testimony is desired in connection with this matter, this Bureau should be so advised in order that his availability for testimony in this case may be determined. (100-373001-34)

This is furnished for your information and should not be disseminated to unauthorized persons or agencies.

- 1 - AAG, Internal Security Division (Under separate cover)  
① - 100-372696 (Armando Penha)

Note: Armando Penha, former  was an informant of our Boston Office from 1950 to 1957. He was a paid informant and a member of the Communist Party. He testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in Boston in 1958.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

RHE:lgm  
(7)

MAIL ROOM  
JUN 16 1958

100-372696-1  
NOT RECORDED  
170 JUN 16 1958

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 100-33873-18

140-3378

Date: June 12, 1958

To: Mr. Kimbell Johnson  
Chief, Investigations Division  
U. S. Civil Service Commission  
Washington 25, D. C.

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: [REDACTED]  
National Labor Relations Board  
SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Reference is made to this Bureau's letter dated June 11, 1954, transmitting the results of an investigation conducted concerning the above-named individual under the provisions of Executive Order 10450.

This is to advise that Boston T-5, whose information appears in the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated May 13, 1954, at Boston, Massachusetts, is Armando Penha, who in the past has furnished this Bureau information of a security nature. Mr. Penha recently testified at a public hearing of the House Committee on Un-American Activities. In the event his testimony is desired in connection with this matter, this Bureau should be so advised in order that his availability for testimony in this case may be determined.

(100-373001-34)

This is furnished for your information and should not be disseminated to unauthorized persons or agencies.

(1) AAG Internal Security Division (encl.)  
(under separate cover)

(1) 100-372696 (Armando Penha) 100-372696

RHE:jab

(7)

NOTE: Armando Penha, former [REDACTED] 99 was a paid informant of our Boston Office from 1950 to 1957. He was a paid informant and a member of the Communist Party. He testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in Boston in 1958.

NOT RECORDED

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

80 JUN 18 1958

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 140-3378-23

Assistant Attorney General

June 12, 1958

~~William F. Tompkins~~

Internal Security Division

Director, FBI

Attention: [REDACTED]

Records Administration Branch

[REDACTED]

Department of the Army  
SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES



Reference is made to this Bureau's memorandum dated January 24, 1952, furnishing a copy of each of the reports covering an investigation conducted concerning the captioned individual. These reports were furnished for information and consideration as to whether the data developed indicated a violation of any Federal law.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mason \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed herewith is a copy of this Bureau's letter of this date to the U. S. Civil Service Commission together with a copy of its enclosure containing further information regarding the captioned matter. This is being furnished to supplement the data previously forwarded to the Department in this case. Background information regarding Mr. Penha was furnished the Department in this Bureau's memorandum dated January 13, 1958, concerning [REDACTED] Security Matter - C.

Enclosure

Matter - C.

121-33873 (1) - 100-372696 (Armando Penha) NOT RECORDED

RHE:lgn (3)

145 JUN 17 1958

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 100-372696-19

140-2380

Date: June 12, 1958

To: Mr. Kimbell Johnson  
Chief, Investigations Division  
U. S. Civil Service Commission  
Washington 25, D. C.

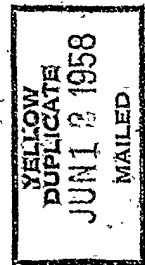
From: John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject:   
Tennessee Valley Authority  
SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Reference is made to this Bureau's letter dated March 3, 1954, transmitting the results of the investigation conducted concerning the above-named individual under the provisions of Executive Order 10450.

This is to advise that T-1, whose information appears in the report of Special Agent Dennis M. Condon, dated February 15, 1954, at Boston, Massachusetts, is Armando Penha, who in the past has furnished this Bureau information of a security nature. Mr. Penha recently testified at a public hearing of the House Committee on Un-American Activities. (100-373001-34)

New Haven T-6, whose information appears in the report of Special Agent  dated February 3, 1954, at New Haven, Connecticut, is , who in the past has furnished this Bureau information of a security nature.  has advised that he is willing to testify before administrative hearing boards but requested that he be asked to testify only in those cases where he is very familiar with the individual involved and where his testimony would be pertinent and deemed necessary. He related that this request is based on the pressure of business and personal demands and should not be construed as a modification of his general willingness to testify.



Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

- 1 - AAG, Internal Security Division (Under separate cover)  
① - 100-372696 (Armando Penha)  
1 - 100-374862

NOT RECORDED

(SEE NOTE PAGE 2) 6 1958

53 JUN 23 1958  
RHE:lgm  
(8)  
MAIL ROOM

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN

Mr. Kimbell Johnson

In the event the testimony of Armando Penha or [redacted] is desired in connection with captioned matter, this Bureau should be so advised in order that their availability for testimony in this case may be determined.

This is furnished for your information and should not be disseminated to unauthorized persons or agencies.

Note: Armando Penha, former [redacted] was an informant of our Boston Office from 1950 to 1957. He was a paid informant and a member of the Communist Party. He testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in Boston in 1958.

[redacted] is a former member of the Communist Party and a former confidential informant of the New Haven Office. He testified as a Government witness in the New Haven Smith Act trial in which the indictment was subsequently dismissed.



140-8333

Date: June 13, 1958

To: Mr. Kimbell Johnson  
Chief, Investigations Division  
U. S. Civil Service Commission  
Washington 25, D. C.

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject:   
Department of the Air Force  
SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Reference is made to this Bureau's letter dated May 16, 1955, transmitting the results of the investigation conducted concerning the above-named individual under the provisions of Executive Order 10450.

This is to advise that Boston T-2, whose information appears in the report of Special Agent  dated May 9, 1955, at Boston, Massachusetts, is Armando Penha, who in the past has furnished this Bureau information of a security nature. Mr. Penha recently testified at a public hearing of the House Committee on Un-American Activities. In the event this testimony is desired in connection with this matter, this Bureau should be so advised in order that his availability for testimony in this case may be determined.  
(100-373001-34)

This is furnished for your information and should not be disseminated to unauthorized persons or agencies.

(1) 100-372696 (Armando Penha) **DUPLICATE YELLOW**

Note: Armando Penha, former  was an informant of our Boston Office from 1950 to 1957. He was a paid informant and a member of the Communist Party. He testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in Boston in 1958.

RHE:tjl  
(7)

100-372696-16  
NOT RECORDED  
JUN 17 1958

(1) AAG Internal Security Division (under separate cover) (encl)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

53 JUN 23 1958

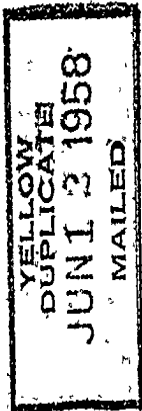
ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 140-8333-14

Assistant Attorney General

June 12, 1958

~~William F. Tompkins~~  
~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~Internal Security Division  
Director, FBIAttention: 

Records Administration Branch

  
National Labor Relations Board  
SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Reference is made to this Bureau's memorandum dated June 11, 1954, furnishing a copy of each of the reports covering an investigation conducted concerning the captioned individual. These reports were furnished for information and consideration as to whether the data developed indicated a violation of any Federal law.

NOT RECORDED

JUN 17 1958

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mason \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed herewith is a copy of this Bureau's letter of this date to the U. S. Civil Service Commission together with a copy of its enclosure containing further information ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ regarding the captioned matter. This is being furnished to supplement the data previously forwarded to the Department in this case. Background information regarding Mr. Penha was furnished the Department in this Bureau's memorandum dated January 13, 1958, concerning , Security Enclosure Matter - C.

140-3378

RHE:jab

(3)

(1) 100-372696 (Armando Penha)

67 JUN 20 1958

ORIGINAL FILED IN

Assistant Attorney General

June 12, 1958

~~William F. Tompkins~~

Internal Security Division

Director, FBI

Attention: [REDACTED]

Records Administration Branch

[REDACTED]  
 Department of the Navy  
 SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

YELLOW  
 DUPLICATE  
 JUN 13 1958  
 MAILED

Reference is made to this Bureau's memorandum dated May 4, 1956, furnishing a copy of each of the reports covering an investigation conducted concerning the captioned individual. These reports were furnished for information and consideration as to whether the data developed indicated a violation of any Federal law.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mason \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed herewith is a copy of this Bureau's letter of this date to the U. S. Civil Service Commission together with a copy of its enclosure containing further information regarding the captioned matter. This is being furnished to supplement the data previously forwarded to the Department in this case. Background information regarding Mr. Penha was furnished the Department in this Bureau's memorandum dated January 13, 1958, concerning [REDACTED], Security Enclosure Matter - C.

140-11938

(1) 100-372696 (Armando Penha) RHE:jab

(3)

ORIGINAL FILE IN

Assistant Attorney General

June 13, 1958

William F. Tompkins  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXInternal Security Division  
Director, FBIAttention:   
Records Administration Branch  
Department of the Air Force  
SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES100-372696-✓  
NOT RECORDED  
126 JUN 17 1958

Reference is made to this Bureau's memorandum dated November 4, 1955, furnishing a copy of each of the reports covering an investigation conducted concerning the captioned individual. These reports were furnished for information and consideration as to whether the data developed indicated a violation of any Federal law.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mason \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed herewith is a copy of this Bureau's letter of this date to the U. S. Civil Service Commission ~~together with a copy of this enclosure~~ containing further information regarding the captioned matter. This is being furnished to supplement the data previously forwarded to the Department in this case. Background information regarding Mr. Penha was furnished the Department in this Bureau's memorandum dated January 13, 1958, concerning , Security Enclosure Matter - C.

140-10536

(1) 100-372696 (Armando Penha)

RHE:jab

(3)

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-10536

Assistant Attorney General

June 13, 1958

~~William F. Tompkins~~  
Internal Security Division  
Director, FBI

Attention:   
Records Administration Branch

Veterans Administration  
SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

100-372696-✓  
NOT FILED  
126 JUN 17 1958

ORIGINAL FILED IN 121-16820-40

Reference is made to this Bureau's memorandum dated March 29, 1955, furnishing a copy of each of the reports covering an investigation conducted concerning the captioned individual. These reports were furnished for information and consideration as to whether the data developed indicated a violation of any Federal law.

YELLOW  
DUPLICATE

JUN 13 1958

MAILED

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mason \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed herewith is a copy of this Bureau's letter of this date to the U. S. Civil Service Commission ~~together with a copy of its enclosure~~ containing further information regarding the captioned matter. This is being furnished to supplement the data previously forwarded to the Department in this case. Background information regarding Mr. Penha was furnished the Department in this Bureau's memorandum dated January 13, 1958, concerning , Security Enclosure Matter - C.

121-16820 100-372696 (Armando Penha)

RHE:lgn

(3)

67 JUN 20 1958

121-16820

Date: June 13, 1958

To: Mr. Kimbell Johnson  
Chief, Investigations Division  
U. S. Civil Service Commission  
Washington 25, D. C.

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject:   
Veterans Administration  
SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Reference is made to this Bureau's letter dated March 29, 1955, transmitting the results of the investigation conducted concerning the above-named individual under the provisions of Executive Order 10450.

This is to advise that Boston T-1, whose information appears in the report of Special Agent Joseph P. McDonough, dated January 17, 1955, at Boston, Massachusetts, is Armando Penha, who in the past has furnished this Bureau information of a security nature. Mr. Penha recently testified at a public hearing of the House Committee on Un-American Activities. In the event his testimony is desired in connection with this matter, this Bureau should be so advised in order that his availability for testimony in this case may be determined.

(100-373001-34)

This is furnished for your information and should not be disseminated to unauthorized persons or agencies.

- 1 - AAG, Internal Security Division (Under separate cover)  
① - 100-372696 (Armando Penha)

Note: Armando Penha, former , was an informant of our Boston Office from 1950 to 1957. He was a paid informant and a member of the Communist Party. He testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in Boston in 1958.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

RHE:lgm  
(7)

100-372696 -  
NOT RECORDED  
199 JUN 17 1958

DUPLICATE YELLOW

MAIL ROOM ☐

55 JUN 19 1958

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 121-16820-41

140-12413

Date: June 13, 1958

To: Mr. Kimbell Johnson  
Chief, Investigations Division  
U. S. Civil Service Commission  
Washington 25, D. C.

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject:   
Veterans Administration  
SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Reference is made to this Bureau's letter dated May 23, 1956, transmitting the results of an appropriate inquiry conducted concerning the above-named individual under the provisions of Executive Order 10450.

This is to advise that Boston T-3, whose information appears in the report of Special Agent Joseph P. McDonough, dated May 15, 1956, at Boston, Massachusetts, is Armando Penha, who in the past has furnished this Bureau information of a security nature. Mr. Penha recently testified at a public hearing of the House Committee on Un-American Activities. (100-373001-34)

This is furnished for your information and should not be disseminated to unauthorized persons or agencies.

(1) Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence  
Department of Army

(1) Immigration and Naturalization Service

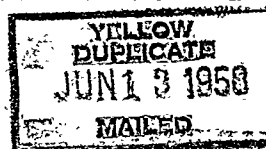
(1) 100-372696 (Armando Penha)

Note: Armando Penha, former  was an informant of our Boston Office from 1950 to 1957. He was a paid informant and a member of the Communist Party. He testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in Boston in 1958.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Bulet of May 23, 1956, transmitted the results of the preliminary inquiry to Army in view of  Army reserve status and to Immigration and Naturalization Service in view of the naturalization of the employee and close relatives.

RHE:tjl  
(8)



ORIGINAL FILED IN 140-12413-5

140-10536

Date: June 13, 1958

To: Mr. Kimbell Johnson  
Chief, Investigations Division  
U. S. Civil Service Commission  
Washington 25, D. C.

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject:   
Department of the Air Force  
SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Reference is made to this Bureau's letter dated November 4, 1955, transmitting the results of the investigation conducted concerning the above-named individual under the provisions of Executive Order 10450.

This is to advise that Boston T-6, whose information appears in the report of Special Agent  dated October 26, 1955, at Boston, Massachusetts, is Armando Penha, who in the past has furnished this Bureau information of a security nature. Mr. Penha recently testified at a public hearing of the House Committee on Un-American Activities. In the event his testimony is desired in connection with this matter, this Bureau should be so advised in order that his availability for testimony in this case may be determined.

(100-373001-34)

This is furnished for your information and should not be disseminated to unauthorized persons or agencies.

(1) AAG Internal Security Division (encl.)  
(under separate cover)

(1) 100-372696 (Armando Penha)

RHE:jab

(7)

DUPLICATE YELLOW

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Armando Penha, former  was an informant of our Boston Office from 1950 to 1957. He was a paid informant and a member of the Communist Party. He testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in Boston in 1958.

100-372696-  
NOT RECORDED  
169 JUN 17 1958

72743  
67 JUN 20 1958

ORIGINAL FILED IN 140-10536



121-9825

b6  
b7E

*Jm*

Date: June 13, 1958

To: Mr. Kimbell Johnson  
Chief, Investigations Division  
U. S. Civil Service Commission  
Washington 25, D. C.

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject:   
Veterans Administration  
SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Reference is made to this Bureau's letter dated June 13, 1955, transmitting the results of the investigation conducted concerning the above-named individual under the provisions of Executive Order 10450.

This is to advise that Boston T-16, whose information appears in the report of Special Agent  dated June 2, 1955, at Boston, Massachusetts, is Armando Penha, who in the past has furnished this Bureau information of a security nature. Mr. Penha recently testified at a public hearing of the House Committee on Un-American Activities. In the event this testimony is desired in connection with this matter, this Bureau should be so advised in order that his availability for testimony in this case may be determined.

(100-373001-34)

This is furnished for your information and should not be disseminated to unauthorized persons or agencies.

(1) 100-372696 (Armando Penha)

Note: Armando Penha, former  was an informant of our Boston Office from 1950 to 1957. He was a paid informant and a member of the Communist Party. He testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in Boston in 1958.

RHE:tjl  
(7)

(1) AAG Internal Security Division (under separate cover) (encl)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

JUN 15 1958

121-9825-28  
ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN

140-7154

b6  
b7E

Date: June 13, 1958

To: Mr. Kimball Johnson  
Chief, Investigations Division  
U. S. Civil Service Commission  
Washington 25, D. C.

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject:   
Department of the Air Force  
SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Reference is made to this Bureau's letter dated March 24, 1955, transmitting the results of an appropriate inquiry conducted concerning the above-named individual under the provisions of Executive Order 10450.

This is to advise that Boston T-4, whose information appears in the report of Special Agent  dated January 27, 1955, at Boston, Massachusetts, is Armando Penha, who in the past has furnished this Bureau information of a security nature. Mr. Penha recently testified at a public hearing of the House Committee on Un-American Activities. In the event his testimony is desired in connection with this matter, this Bureau should be so advised in order that his availability for testimony in this case may be determined.

This is furnished for your information and should not be disseminated to unauthorized persons or agencies.

RHE:jab (1) 100-372696 (Armando Penha) **DUPLICATE YELLOW**  
(6)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Armando Penha, former  was an informant of our Boston Office from 1950 to 1957. He was a paid informant and a member of the Communist Party. He testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in Boston in 1958.

3372696  
JUN 20 1958

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169 JUN 17 1958

ORIGINAL FILED IN 140-7154

140-10536

*my*

Date: June 16, 1958

To: Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence  
Department of the Army  
The Pentagon  
Washington 25, D. C.

Attention: Chief, Security Division

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject:   
Department of the Air Force  
SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent  dated October 26, 1955, at Boston, Massachusetts, a copy of which was forwarded to you on October 23, 1957.

This is to advise that Boston T-6, whose information appears in the above-mentioned report, is Armando Penha, who in the past has furnished this Bureau information of a security nature. Mr. Penha recently testified at a public hearing of the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

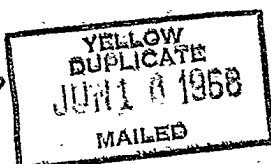
This is furnished for your information and should not be disseminated to unauthorized persons or agencies.

(1) 100-372696 (Armando Penha) *A*

RHE:jab  
(5)

NOTE: Armando Penha, former  was an informant of our Boston Office from 1950 to 1957. He was a paid informant and a member of the Communist Party. He testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in Boston in 1958.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
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Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_



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NOT RECORDED  
149 JUL 17 1958

67 JUN 20 1958

ORIGINAL FILE IN 140-10536-10

121-41629

*pink*

Date: June 16, 1958

To: Mr. Kimbell Johnson  
Chief, Investigations Division  
U. S. Civil Service Commission  
Washington 25, D. C.

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject:   
Department of the Air Force  
SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Reference is made to this Bureau's letter dated January 14, 1953, transmitting the results of the investigation conducted concerning the above-named individual under the provisions of Executive Order 9835.

This is to advise that Boston T-8, whose information appears in the report of Special Agent James E. Brennan, dated December 11, 1952, at Boston, Massachusetts, is Armando Penha, who in the past has furnished this Bureau information of a security nature. Mr. Penha recently testified at a public hearing of the House Committee on Un-American Activities. In the event his testimony is desired in connection with this matter, this Bureau should be so advised in order that his availability for testimony in this case may be determined.

This is furnished for your information and should not be disseminated to unauthorized persons or agencies.

(1) AAG Internal Security (encl.) (under separate cover)

(1) 100-372696 (Armando Penha)

RHE:jab  
(7)

NOTE: Armando Penha, former  was an informant of our Boston Office from 1950 to 1957. He was a paid informant and a member of the Communist Party. He testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in Boston in 1958.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
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MAIL ROOM ☐

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NOT RECORDED

117 JUN 16 1958

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-372696-1

140-10536

Date: June 16, 1958

To: Director of Naval Intelligence  
Department of the Navy  
The Pentagon  
Washington 25, D. C.

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject:   
Department of the Air Force  
SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent James E. Brennan, dated October 26, 1955, at Boston, Massachusetts, a copy of which was forwarded to you on May 6, 1958.

This is to advise that Boston T-6, whose information appears in the above-mentioned report, is Armando Penha, who in the past has furnished this Bureau information of a security nature. Mr. Penha recently testified at a public hearing of the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

This is furnished for your information and should not be disseminated to unauthorized persons or agencies.

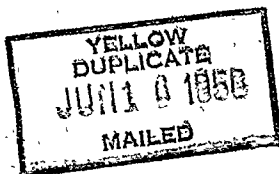
(1) 100-372696 (Armando Penha)

RHE:jab  
(5)

NOTE: Armando Penha, former , was an informant of our Boston Office from 1950 to 1957. He was a paid informant and a member of the Communist Party. He testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in Boston in 1958.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
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JUN 18 1958



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NOT RECORDED  
100 JUN 17 1958

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 140-10536-18

Assistant Attorney General  
Internal Security Division

June 30, 1958

Director, FBI

MICHAEL A. RUSSO  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C  
SMITH ACT OF 1940

Armando Penha, a former Boston informant, has been under consideration as a potential witness in the Smith Act membership trial of Russo. The following information relating to Penha's background has recently been obtained and is being transmitted to the Department to supplement the background data previously transmitted to the Department.

In May, 1958, an informant of our Boston Office, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that Homer Chase, a Communist Party member from New Hampshire, alleged that Penha had stolen money from one of his former employers, the John Hancock Insurance Company.

A review of Penha's file at the insurance company reflects that he worked as a debit agent from March, 1946, to August, 1950. During March, 1950, the company determined that Penha's accounts had a shortage of approximately \$252. Penha explained to the company that he had been having considerable expense in connection with his mother's illness and had gotten behind on payments on the mortgage on his home. Penha's supervisor recommended leniency for Penha and he was allowed to continue his work. The file reflects this shortage was repaid.

During July, 1950, another shortage of approximately \$148 was found in Penha's accounts. On August 1, 1950, Penha submitted his resignation to the insurance company as he felt it was in the best interests of the company and himself to do so. A notation in his file dated October 27, 1950, reflects all shortages were repaid.

100-45285

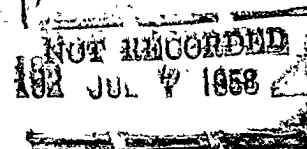
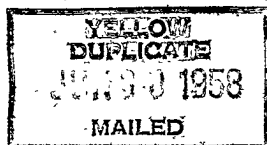
cc 100-372696 (Penha)

PWD:pat  
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ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 100-45285-387

**Assistant Attorney General  
Internal Security Division**

Penha has advised that he had offered his services to the Bureau in February or March, 1950, and because of his Communist Party activity he was unable to devote sufficient time to the insurance business. As a result his production fell off and he was reprimanded by the manager of the insurance company who later requested his resignation because of his lack of production. Penha stated he did not feel that the shortages in his accounts had anything to do with the request for his resignation.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-372696)

DATE: June 16, 1958

b6  
b7C  
b7EFROM : SAC, BOSTON SUBJECT: ARMANDO PENHA  
SOURCE OF INFORMATION

Re Bureau letter May 29, 1958.

of the Investigation Bureau, John Hancock Life Insurance Company, Boston, Mass. (protect identity), advised the following concerning PENHA's employment with that company from a review of PENHA's file:

PENHA began to work for the John Hancock Insurance Co. on March 20, 1946, as a Debit Agent, New Bedford, Mass. District.

During March, 1950, it was determined that PENHA had the following shortage:

Gross weekly premiums	\$ 71.80
Gross monthly premiums	56.54
Gross ordinary premiums	123.97
Total	\$ 252.31

PENHA gave a statement to the company explaining the shortage as follows:

During the winter of 1949 he had a great deal of sickness among all of his family. He was contributing to the payment of hospital expenses of his mother, who was in the hospital and on the danger list, as she was a diabetic and had high blood pressure. PENHA was sharing this expense with his brother. During the latter part of 1949 his brother insisted he pay \$500.00 towards the payment of hospital and doctor bills of his mother. PENHA said he used up all of his savings to do this and, in addition, secured a loan. Subsequently, the loan payment became due, as well as the mortgage payment, and PENHA said he found it most difficult to meet expenses. During February, 1950, PENHA said he was two months' overdue on mortgage payments and the bank told

2- Bureau  
1- Boston  
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(100-372696) (RM)

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[ ]  
him he had to pay within ten days. PENHA said he decided to sell his home. He said he used the ordinary and weekly premiums to cover the overdue mortgage payments and awaited the sale of his home to adjust the discrepancies. He said the reason he did this was because he did not want to lose his home.

During March and April, 1950, there was an exchange of correspondence between the John Hancock Insurance Company and PENHA's supervisor recommending leniency which resulted in the recommendation that he be allowed to continue to work.

On April 13, 1950, the Bonding Company, acting on the recommendation of the John Hancock Insurance Co., continued him under bond.

PENHA's file reflected this shortage was repaid.

During latter July, 1950, an agent of the John Hancock Insurance Co. checked PENHA's books and determined that he had collected money on June 30, 1950 and deposited this collection July 24, 1950. Total shortage was determined to be \$148.19.

On August 1, 1950, PENHA submitted his resignation to the John Hancock Insurance Co., as he felt that in the interests of the company and himself, it was logical that he do so. He stated that it was difficult for him to perform his duties for reasons of health and did not desire to become a burden to the company. He stated his best attempts to try to become successful were not satisfactory to him.

A notation in PENHA's file dated October 27, 1950, reflected all shortages had been repaid.

[ ] confidentially advised a small percentage of the debit agents often have shortages but make these shortages up before inspection.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-372696)

DATE: June 27, 1958

FROM : SAC, BOSTON SUBJECT: ARMANDO PENHA  
SOURCE OF INFORMATION

Rebuletts March 10, and March 21, 1958.

The usual justification letter which has been submitted in the past in connection with ARMANDO PENHA as required by Section 107 N of the Manual of Instructions is not being submitted at this time because PENHA is no longer a paid Source of Information.

On April 25, 1958, PENHA was paid the sum of \$75.00 by SA  for personal services rendered from March 15, to April 13, 1958. At that time PENHA was informed by SA  that that would be the last payment made to him by the Bureau because PENHA advised that the House Committee on Un-American Activities paid him \$300 for his services from April 15, to May 15, 1958 and intended to pay him another \$300 for his services in May.

PENHA is still being used by the House Committee on Un-American Activities and has been requested to appear as a witness at Atlanta, Georgia for an HCUA hearing to be held in that city July 1, and July 2, 1958. PENHA is presently employed by the city of New Bedford Veterans' Services, New Bedford, Massachusetts and receives a salary of \$65.00 per week as an investigator by that agency.

Due to the fact that PENHA was connected with the Communist Party in New Bedford, Massachusetts, as a Bureau informant from 1950 to 1957, it will be necessary from time to time to contact him but at the present time he is not being paid as an informant.

This Source of Information has not shown any personal weakness, does not have any domestic difficulties and has not indicated any untrustworthiness or unreliability. It is believed that his continued use as Source of Information will not cause any embarrassment to the Bureau.

cc 1243  
JBD:JEH

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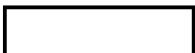
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*do*  
*no action necessary*



Permission is, therefore, requested of the Bureau to continue ARMANDO PENHA as an unpaid Source of Information.